



Series: Feng Yu Jiu Tian or Phoenix Heavenly Voyage

Volume 3: Prestige Town Bo Jian

Power Oppress at Bo Jian

Author: Feng Nong

Translate from Da-Lac: mnemea

Editor: Wantsome (wait for a copy)

Warning: Soft Yaoi

Note: Yellow highlighted name that translated to Vietnamese (not important names).

Chapter I

When they referred to the conversation that Miao Guang Princess may have connived with Li King, of course it was very much a possibility. Feng Ming hesitated then turned to Miao Guang and asked, "Have Your Highness heard of Cao Cao?"

"Cao Cao?" The princess of course had never heard of this character before.

"Cao Cao had said something really infamous. He said, 'I rather betraying the people in the world than allows the others betraying me.'"

"I rather betraying the people in the world than allows the others betrayed me?"

"Yes, he was an inglorious ruthless man and had done a lifetime of despicable treacherous when dealings with people. Although, he the founder of a kingdom but was posterity and libel insulted by later generations. My believed is contrary to his philosophy." Feng Ming sincerity said, "If I do not trust the Princess, your life could be destroyed by my hands; and if I do trust the Princess and that trust may harm me because the Princess and Li King were conspiracy together. Consider these two options; I would rather accept the latter outcome that is the Princess deceives me, than refusing to be an assistant to Your Highness."

Miao Guang felt like a wake-up called and shuddered in disbelief.

Her heart felt like crashing waves, instantly dizzy as she stood up.

She had thought Duke Ming was handsome and carefree, excellent educative, but his characteristic simply stupid and silly. Yesterday, she baits him a little and he had instantly fallen for it, Miao Guang could not help but felt contempt for him. Instead, Duke Ming had a different philosophy of how to treat others; his spirit was highly mettle that unmeasurable. He willing risks his own life for the sake of other; for merely in support of benevolence and righteousness, in which to help her plight; with such an attitude could other not praises and applauds him?

The tears in her eyes started vibrates and shakes, then she realised that she had failed the customs observance, turned hastily away and hidden her readily falling tears, "Duke Ming's graces, how could Miao Guang dare to accept?"

"What grace?" Feng Ming waves his hand away as it was nothing and said, "We're still discussing how to divert the soldiers away from Princess."

While her emotion had stirred but brother king's instruction could not be denies. Therefore, Miao Guang spirits returned as she sat down again, and continues discussed the plan secretly with Feng Ming.

"Yong Yi offered gifts today and will be made his departure of the capital. He and I had made planned to meet tomorrow. Therefore, tomorrow we shall require to leaves the city. Since Duke Ming help to lead the soldier away, so tomorrow morning you also need to sneak out the city, changing into my costumes and then quickly heading for eastward direction. Outside the east of capital about twenty miles, there is a river in which my personal servant will drop a dead body that similar appearance of me into the river, this would made others think that I have fell down the horse and drown whilst running away."

Feng Ming applauded, "That's brilliant, I will draw them to the east so that they see the fake corpse, when they do consequently will stop search where Yours Highness anymore. However, as Your Highness staying here, how could you be silently...?"

"Duke Ming should not be worries. I will first assume being unwell as a result will be alone in the restroom. After order that no one allows to enters the room, then I would quietly leaved. Nevertheless, at best I only hold them off for half hour. Duke Ming must quietly leave the capital and hide at the main gate, and once Your Grace detect the troops depart the city, immediately head to the east and gallops fast so the soldiers will sticks to your heels." Miao Guang smiles, "The troops chasing behind are the subordinates of Xi-Rei King, are you sure they will not hurt Your Grace?"

"Do not be afraid. They absolutely will not hurt me."

"So I am reassured." Miao Guang stared at Feng Ming for a second and removed from the belt a small sachet, "Duke Ming's graces in which I could never be able to reciprocate. Here is the fragrance bag that Yong Yi had given me, please carry it with Your Grace, that may be in one day Duke Ming will need of Yong Yi's assistance, if Yong Yi sees this bag he will do everything in his power to help Your Grace. "

"This was his present for you, presented this to me is a little..." Feng Ming nodded uncertainly.

"Duke Ming please accept this gift, after today's discussion, by tomorrow we will be on two separate roads, no matter whether Miao Guang was able to escape or not, I fear that Your Grace and I will find it very difficult to meet each other again. This fragrance bag please refer to as a souvenir. "

"Very well" Feng Ming took the bag and wore it on the chest, "I will definitely be careful to keep it."

They discussed the plan in details for a while longer before Feng Ming returned to the prince's quarter.

When Rong Tian departed the prince's quarter and with Lie-er entered a secret basement.

"Great King, the news from Elder Brother of your servant has arrived."

"Report!"

Lie-er said, "Ruo Yan had not made any movement and still handling the affair of his country as usual; as for Miao Guang Princess' situation he seems not to worry. He believes that the deadly poison on Duke Ming would not allow Xi-Rei to hurt the Princess."

"What about Fu Yan antidote?"

Lie-er bowed, "It could not be stolen. Although, Elder Brother had reconnaissance and found that in Li Kingdom there is an eccentric man, who is very profound in pharmacology. It is possible that pharmaceutical arts of Ruo Yan had learnt from this man. Elder Brother departed to find where this eccentric man is residing and hoping to invite him to Xi-Rei, and diagnosis for Duke Ming's poison. "

Rong Tian sighed, "He must hurry up otherwise Feng Ming will not be sustaining for long. In our hands, we only have one antidote capsule, and the toxic cycle is coming close to the first month."

"Yours Majesty, please do not worries, Elder Brother will made certain to invite this man to come here soon."

Along the road galloping and horsewhips, Feng Ming carefully considered the whole situation again. He was not an idiot so obviously he too had been worrying whether there was a chance of Miao Guang could harm him.

The plans for tomorrow was for him to leave the city upon sees the Xi-Rei troops, if he could not able to outrun the troops, it would not problem should he get caught. The entire process was not under the control of Miao Guang's hand and the event of course happenings in front of Xi-Rei troops thus whether Miao Guang would wish to harm him, could not find an opportunity to do so right?

In that case then Miao Guang indeed did not plans to harm him.

When he stepped inside the prince's quarter and found that Rong Tian had not returned. Chiu Lian's group had gathered around the table and gossiping noisily and upon saw Feng Ming, immediately stood up and hurriedly welcomed him back.

"Duke Ming had returned, Chiu Xing quickly bringing the new fruit which recently gifted as tribute to the Great King."

Chiu Xing brought a fruit platter and placed them in front of Feng Ming, smiled and said, "This fruit Yue Yue is the best when eat freshest, Duke Ming should tasted a little."

Yue Yue shape was very small, about the size of a thumb, deep blue colour. Feng Ming took one and put into the mouth, eyes instantly lighten up, "So sweet, it's delicious." He then take a few more fruit before turned to Chiu Yue's group said, "You all should better have a taste of them too."

"Your maidservant had stealthily eaten some already." Chiu Yue giggled.

Chiu Lian looked mature and scolded them, "You're all started not following regulations, this was the royal tribute and you dare to stealthily eaten them."

Chiu Xing pouted countered, "Did you not eat them?"

"I only had one, while you and Chiu Yue each were ate at least four or five."

Feng Ming laughed, as his hand stuffed a fruit into Chiu Lian's mouth and coaxing, "Okay, do quarrel on this. You should also eat another four or five fruits as well."

Since they were being terrible hubbub by the time Rong Tian returned, when he saw Feng Ming playing loudly so he quietly from behind strode forward and swallowed the fruit Yue Yue on Feng Ming's hand and even the fingers did not escaped from the mouth.

"Very sweet." Rong Tian's tongue was softly licking around Feng Ming's fingers.

Chiu Lian's group quickly saluted before dispersed across the room.

Feng Ming withdrew his fingers back, "A little dog bites people."

"Feed me another one."

"No."

"I'll feed you."

Rong Tian bitten another Yue Yue fruit and brought it adjacent to Feng Ming's lips.

Since last night Feng Ming had ate Xi-Rei King, so tonight he naturally was on his best behaviour and abide staying on Rong Tian chest to maintain his energy. It will be a big day tomorrow, for he has a vital task to do and as for the delectable Little Tian, he had decided to wait and continue eaten him in the future.

They warmly snuggled up throughout the night. The next day Rong Tian had promptly leaved the bed at crack of dawn for the Court Assembly. Feng Ming gently opens his eyes and waited until Rong Tian had gone outside and without delayed got up as well.

"Where does Your Grace want to go?" When Feng Ming moved his legs, he confronted by Lie-er who had stood in front of him.

"Go out."

"Yesterday Your Grace had sneaked outside, but today you also want to go again?" Lie-er joked and stood in his way, "If you not going tell your servant where you're going then your servant will have to dobbed with the Great King."

"No, you'll not!"

"Just tell your servant please."

Feng Ming turned around to check the surrounding and dragged Lie-er to a corner.

Since the situation had come to this, for thousand times he could not allowed Rong Tian to be inform. Feng Ming sighed and retold the whole story about Miao Guang Princess to Lie-er, but he concealed Yong Yi identity, only mentioned the Princess wished to elope and asked him to divert the soldiers for a different direction.

"Today is a day of action; Lie-er will not informant on me right?"

Lie-er contemplated and shook his head, "Your servant do not want the King to wed that Princess, it good that she on the runs. However, your servant worries that it may be lies that they will detrimental to Duke Ming."

"I had been contemplated of my involvement in the escape plan, there should be no chance for them to harm me, as the whole process supposing exposed under the eyes of many people. I only need to yell out and they could not escape."

"If Duke Ming had already thought this situation thoroughly so there should be no problem."

Lie-er enthusiastic offered, "Anything that your servant could be of help?"

"That's great, I'll meet her servant at the market place, and he will bring clothes for me to wear for disguises." Feng Ming a bit worried so requests to Lie-er, "You could help me to get out the palace quietly and stay close in the market place to see if I signal for help. That is the only time I will have close contact with her servant from Li Kingdom, after that event will certainly be perfectly safe. "

"Okay, if the Princess does tricks you, Duke Ming only need to make a hand gesture I'll immediately report to the King to rescue Your Grace. It just... why would Duke Ming want to risk your life and venturing on this plan to help Li King's sister? "

Feng Ming was about to explain moral philosophy that yesterday Miao Guang had admiring praised him, but detected the time was late so he patted gently on Lie-er's head, "Hmm, I'll explain when I came back."

The two quietly got out of the palace and changed into ordinary citizen costumes. Feng Ming wore a huge broad-brimmed hat, intentionally to conceal his face. When they arrived to the market place, the servant of the Princess indeed had hidden himself among the people.

Feng Ming was carrying an important responsibility thus excessive excited and turned to Lie-er said, "I'll go over there to get those stuff and then immediately depart the city. If you're worry, just watching from the distance should be all right."

"Yes."

Feng Ming knew that Lie-er was nearby to protect him, so he felt more secure and boldly entered the market to meet the princess' servant.

"The Princess had gone?" Feng Ming asked in a low voice.

"Yes, she had left about half hour and after giving these clothes to Duke Ming, servant also be going."

"Very good, I'll immediately leave the city and when see the troops will redirect them away."

Feng Ming received the costumes and turned to walk away, he suddenly heard the servant asked, "Does Duke Ming know that in every directions of Xi-Rei had cavalries oversees the area?"

"What?" Feng Ming was sightly shock.

"Except Lie-er who was nearby to Duke Ming, there are those who were sent by Xi-Rei King. Plead that Duke Ming for cooperation and follows me to the back corner of the market, which is a good place to observe and could not see. We will get someone to pretend Duke Ming and distract them so Your Grace could get out of the city. "

Feng Ming bowed his head, his thoughts was reeling.

If Rong Tian had always tracked him that means Miao Guang could never able to flee; so Miao Guang could not escape then why should he have to follow this servant. He shook his head said, "If the plan of Miao Guang Princess had failed, why should I have to follow you to that corner, you don't have to worries, I'll do all I can to rescue the Princess."

"Ha ha, Duke Ming indeed was interesting." The servant's eyes suddenly flashed of fiendishly cunning "Our Princess known for her wisdom, if she wants to leave Xi-Rei, there no need for Duke Ming help? Should Duke Ming not follow my suggestion then Xi-Rei King life will be endanger."

The servant emitted ominous energy at that moment which caused an instantly chill in Feng Ming's heart.

Feng Ming raised his eyeballs, "Rong Tian?"

"It was the Princess, how could Duke Ming illogically carrying Princess's item? In the middle of fragrance bag containing a very perilous toxic in the world, now not only Duke Ming had been poisoned by the Princess, but also Xi-Rei King and so is your close attendant servants in the Prince's quarter also poisoned." He said coldly, "If Duke Ming does not believe, Your Grace could gently press on the third ribs on the chest to see if there is pain there?"

Feng Ming was doubt and turned to look at Lie-er who still watching over him from a distance.

He gently lifted the hand and pressed softly on the spot that servant had said, a sudden sharp pain thrust inside, almost made his knees gave out.

"So, what I said was correct? Our King wanted to invite Duke Ming to Li Kingdom for a trip as a guest, as long as Duke Ming listens to our instructions, antidotes will immediately be available."

"Miao Guang, she...she exploited me to poison Rong Tian?" In Feng Ming's head like a lightning bolt exploded.

If Feng Ming poisoned, then Rong Tian would also affected. Miao Guang have the opportunity to poison Rong Tian absolutely would not use an ordinary toxic.

'Rong Tian, what should I do now? How could I actually harm you? I cannot harm you...To save Rong Tian; first I must see Miao Guang.'

"Duke Ming there not much time left, if you do not want Xi-Rei King to die, please turning away now; go to that small corner over there. I had arranged a fake Duke Ming to be there. After that fake man diverts Xi-Rei's guards away, Duke Ming wear a human face mask in this bag and then go outside the eastern gate of city, the Princess will be there waiting for Duke Ming."

Feng Ming glared, the thought of Rong Tian at the moment in the Court Hall was poisoned, extremely agitated and stirred confusion inside him; trembling lips asked, "If I was to go with you, but you do not give antidote to Rong Tian then what shall I do? "

"Duke Ming believes in us then Xi-Rei King will live. However, if you do not believe us then both of Xi-Rei King and you will be die by poison."

Lie-er was stranding his neck to look at Feng Ming.

Feng Ming shortly transfixed, eyes lighten as he made his decision and nodded, bitten his teeth said, "Alright, I believe you." As expected, he had followed the instruction according to that servant, walked to the corners where the place concealed him from everyone's eyes.

Feng Ming quietly muttered Rong Tian name all the ways, complied with what the servant had instructed, and indeed step out of the city main eastern gate.

When he was outside the eastern gate, immediately facing a girl stood there welcome and gave him a horse. They advised, "The horse knows where to go so you only need to ride it."

Everything had happened was as if an incredible drama play unfolds. Feng Ming at this moment had no other choice but accepted the script and docile get onto the horse. The stallion made a loud whine noise before she bolted like crazy wildly, continuous non-stop gallops for more than thirty miles before stopped in front of a group of carriages.

It was a common merchant fleet in Xi-Rei, Feng Ming saw many of them every day like this fleet coming into the city.

When the horse had stopped, a few people immediately came out from the group and led Feng Ming into a cart.

When the veil had lifted, it revealed a smiling face of Miao Guang.

"Duke Ming finally arrived. I had waited too long, quickly came up here." Her smiling face had always been amiable, but in this particularly situation exceptionally scary.

Feng Ming came on the carriage and his face shown abhorrence.

"I must apology for making Duke Ming alone rode the horse all the way here. It is best that Duke Ming disguised himself and get out of city by yourself so that the city guards would pay no attention that you had left. Xi-Rei King had strictly ordered to examine carefully with large groups of people leaving the city, for fear of Your Grace being kidnapped, how could he have guess that Duke Ming obediently made the initiative to leave the city and join us like this?"

Feng Ming said coldly, "Don't speak nonsense. Where is the promise of antidotes, quickly bring it to the palace, if not I will bite my tongue and would immediately commit suicide so do not dreams of taking me to Li Kingdom."

"Antidotes?" Miao Guang laughed, "Oh, indeed Duke Ming truly foolish that Miao Guang would be laughing to death. Who is Xi-Rei King if he easily poisoned; Brother King would have already done it earlier. Rong Tian had overseer Duke Ming days and nights, whatever on Duke Ming he would certainly had sent them to his people to check? That fragrance bag which I gave to Duke Ming, already had swapped with another as soon as Your Grace walked outside of my

residence. Had I offered a poison fragrance bag to Duke Ming, would not mean to give Xi-Rei King an excuse to kill me?"

"You ..." Feng Ming suddenly turning back again, "So our chest ..."

"That poison, Duke Ming had already infected in Fan Jia. Xi-Rei King also knew, but was not dare tell Your Grace, fear of his precious would become restless in spirit hence further harms the body. "

"Poisoning? Had been I poisoned? "

"Tsk." Miao Guang shook her head a little, "Since Duke Ming never anticipatory for wicked schemes and do not know the situation. The Xi-Rei King had ensured a complete protection for Your Grace everywhere, never a moment not having someone followed Duke Ming, and in arrogant he must have thought that absolutely there will be no loopholes. I exploited on his conceited. He thought had already silently ensnared us but I've discreetly calculate a trap to trounce his. "

"Miao Guang, you are a venomous woman!" Feng Ming jumped up from the ground.

"It ashamed then for without Duke Ming greatly interdependent aid how could Miao Guang succeeds? This time takes Duke Ming to Brother King, is truly a greatest work accomplishment."

Chapter II

The situation had ensued to this level. He of course knew the purpose of Miao Guang but upon heard that he deems as a thing of merits for her, he was livid and alarms; fists tightly gripped unable to make its stop trembled. In his life, he never had been hated a woman so much. No, it was a girl.

The merchant fleet started their journey eastward and no one knew Xi-Rei Duke Ming had fallen into enemy hands.

Miao Guang said while laughing, "Brother King seeing Duke Ming certainly very happy."

Feng Ming found that the whole body chill, "Ruo Yan?"

Feng Ming remembered the deadly terrorist eyes of Ruo Yan, to fall into that man hands, the outcome for Feng Ming will be a hellish life, and he shuddered. He glared at Miao Guang as the left hand sneaked at the back. On the previous Queen's birthday, among the mountain of gifts Rong Tian had chosen a small sharp dagger, which he had always hidden under the belt, and at last, there was a day it come in handy.

"When Ruo Yan saw me, I do not think he will be please, instead very angry at the Princess." He grasped the dagger tightly in the hand, Feng Ming sudden recomposed and his eyes were brightly stared at Miao Guang, appeared leisurely at ease, "Have the Princess heard about thirty-six strategies?"

"Thirty-six strategies?" Miao Guang knew although Feng Ming does not conspiracy to hurt others, but hidden inside of countless wonderful strategies. She often used her spare time to studies renowned strategies, she was extremely passionate and fascinate of them, when she heard the "thirty-six strategies" of course her curiosity immediately emerged.

"Yes, the thirty-six strategies naturally selected by the people in the world, in that list one strategy called – Beauty (honey) Trap. It taken place in the time, where there was a powerful evil man called Dong Zhuo. Under his personnel, a powerful martial general called Lu Bu. Their relationship initially..." Feng Ming liveliness seems to dropping and his voice become smaller.

Miao Guang started to get her ears moved closer to Feng Ming.

Feng Ming quietly waiting for her to get close and his heart secretly delighted, suddenly shook his head softly said, "Ah, I'd it wrong. The story for today is not about Beauty Trap, is should be 'toss a rat but afraid it would smash a vase' right." When he mention the part, 'toss a rat but afraid it would smash a vase' his tone was highly pitched suddenly and on the rug mattress inside horse carriage he jumped up, and with the dagger in his palm instantly place in front of Miao Guang.

A girl should not be difficult to deal with only to know when to grasp the opportunity!

"Freeze!" Miao Guang caught off guard as Feng Ming brought the dagger adjacent to her dedicate neck. Feng Ming's deep voice shouted, "Quickly called your servant to take me back to the city, otherwise I will kill you."

Miao Guang had not thought that a naive man like Feng Ming would hide a weapon, silently scolded myself for carelessness of not order her servant to search earlier. Her eyes glanced to the side and looking at the frame dagger besides her neck, which sharply edge, gently smiling and high voice called, "Stop the carriage."

The fleet of horses whining in unison as the entire team was on hold.

Feng Ming excited but carefully watchful over Miao Guang, prevent any sudden resistance.

A voice from outside of the vehicle, spoken respectfully, "Master, do you require something?"

Miao Guang said slowly, "Cai Si, you come in here."

Cai Si, the servant that had met Feng Ming in the market, he had been serving Ruo Yan for several years, due to his conduct shrewdly and maturely, thus Ruo Yan had utmost employed him for confidence work, this time he travelled with Miao Guang to Xi-Rei to trick and kidnapping Feng Ming.

When he came inside and with a glance able to guess what had happened inside the carriage. Feng Ming had made a move and held Miao Guang as a hostage in the hand. Cai Si initially momentary stunned, but immediately calm down. His face colour did not changed as he turned to clasp his hands before Miao Guang and asked, "Princess is well?"

Miao Guang's eyes softly stirred, "Not good."

Those two people were calms to the point of singularity, unlike the basic atmosphere of tension

as expected with a hostage held. Feng Ming snarled, "Quickly bring me back, otherwise I would ..."

Miao Guang interrupted him and her face serious again as she turned to Cai Si, and in a deep voice said, "Cai Si, hear my command."

"Cai Si is here," Cai Si loudly respectfully said, stoop before Miao Guang waiting for the issuing command.

"I have met unfortunate accident; everything here is hand over to you for decision. Take note of one point, no matter what the price cost, you must bring Duke Ming back to Brother King." Miao Guang coldly drafts her ordered, the eyes were looking out at the distance then laughing graceful with Feng Ming and said "Duke Ming, you could going ahead now."

Feng Ming awed, the thinking of these ancient people compared to the modern people was completely difference, they seen their lives were not important as to accomplish their mission. Miao Guang does not care for her own life. He gritted teeth threatened "Do not think that I'm not daring to kill."

"Miao Guang wants to make this bet."

"You..."

"Just do it." Miao Guang was not disturbed but rather calms of the situation, on contradictory, she had taken her neck closer to the front blades.

Feng Ming had never kill anyone, saw the blade cleft Miao Guang's neck, a few drops of blood was oozing, instantly shouted in horror as his hands were trembling and hastened to take the dagger aside.

Suddenly the wrist transmitted pain, then a bang sound had made from the impact of the dagger fallen down on the ceramic teacup onto the table.

It seems a small yellow hairpin had stabbed straight into the left palm of Feng Ming.

Cai Si was strong as a tiger jumped; dive forward as he punched in Feng Ming's stomach, then pushed him down, and used a rope tied his hands.

Everything took place as fast as lightning.

Feng Ming confused and disoriented as he wake up, his hands has been tied up and put in the

carriage corner and there also dreary abdominal pain as well. Cai Si and Miao Guang sat along one side and seemed interested as they watched over him.

Miao Guang tinkering with the little dagger that Rong Tian had gave to Feng Ming, giggled and laughing, "This must surely be the small dagger which famous of Xi-Rei, I heard the blade was thin as a leaves, unparalleled sharp that it would not draw blood upon kill a person. Xi-Rei King indeed very good with Duke Ming, anything that is valuable treasure rewarded to Duke Ming."

"Humph!"

"It is a pity that Duke Ming's heart too soft, even with an enemy could not attack them." Miao Guang leaned forward and showed him where the slight cut on the neck said, "Next time keep in mind, do not because of slightly scratch that instantly stopped the hand but need to use force."

Feng Ming said coldly, "Princess should be assured, Feng Ming will definitely remember Your Highness advised."

Cai Si said, "Your Highness, this person must be carefully guarded against. Your servant suggested it better to ties him up. "

"Needless, I simply need to stabs a few needles and he will unable to move. After doing some

make up on his face and changing his clothes into mine, even someone does sees us would think that we are sisters. The only thing was that my Elder Sister had a weak body, infected with a disease when she was a child so could not speak nor even able to sit, it is quite pitiful."

Miao Guang skills in acupuncture and makeup artist in which could be seen the first or second bested in the world but she rarely used these skills so not many people had known.

The merchant group began to move.

Miao Guang actually acupuncture needles on Feng Ming body and forced him to swallow a few strange pills. Feng Ming hands were tied had to endure her stabbing and intakes the pills, after that his body gotten numb. He had no energy to sit and power to open his mouth hence unable to verbally swearing at her, in that instantly he suddenly realized that no words could able to escape his mouth.

"Duke Ming should not fear for this drug only temporarily, made you unable to speak. After leaving Xi-Rei border you will able to regain your voice so now obediently take one pill every day."

Feng Ming's eyes glared at Miao Guang, a moment later his eyes immediately switched to petrify.

Miao Guang had dared stripping off his clothes.

"What a beautiful body, do not even mentions Brother King even I also have capitulated." Miao Guang was changing his clothes into her garments whilst teases him loudly. Then she had commanded for Cai Si taken Feng Ming's clothes out of the carriage and burned.

Feng Ming slightly blinked and looked closely at Miao Guang, who started using lipstick on his lips and powders on his face; it was not long before she had finished his makeup. Miao Guang supports him and leaned his body on the cushion then grabbed a mirror and placed it in front of Feng Ming, "Look, who could be prettier than my sister. If Xi-Rei King saw sister, he will definitely bring you back to become his Queen. Nevertheless, do not worries, Xi-Rei King should currently still at capital searching for his Duke Ming, because he will not believe Duke Ming would depart alone to meet us." When she finished her speech, she once again prolong praised how beautiful his appearance disguised as a female.

Feng Ming seen in the mirror of a beautiful woman reflection, indeed a bewitching beauty*, in the heart cried out his silently complain, if this continues he will certainly be taken from Xi-Rei.

'Please God; I do not want to fall into the hands of Ruo Yan.'

He really hates his stupid pig head, if earlier knew this going happened he should follow Cao

Cao's philosophy onto that path instead for his own benefit. *'The next time I would rather betraying the other instead let the other betrayed me'.*

Unfortunately, it was too late.

Miao Guang dressed as a female trader and with Feng Ming as sisters sitting inside the carriage. The merchant group rolled on the road for nearly a day. On the road, they had passed many checkpoints that searched the merchant fleet. The soldiers sometimes unveiled the curtain to see inside the carriage, upon saw Feng Ming their eyes immediately lighten up, though Feng Ming had makeup done by the best artist and comparing with the paintings of Duke Ming was dissimilar, so no one had detected it was him. However, should Rong Tian sudden appear, or Lie-er's group, Chiu Lian were there, of course it would have been different.

It seemed there were no other dangers for the next two days and on the third day, the merchant fleet heading very close to Xi-Rei border.

Cai Si pulled up the curtain and went inside to report, "Your Highness's prediction is very good, and the patrol stations of Xi-Rei are decreasing. Xi-Rei King must believe Duke Ming had hidden inside the city, he had not order the soldiers' patrols across the land to prevent anyone taken Duke Ming away."

"We're very lucky. If that day Duke Ming had arrived late for half an hour, the capital naturally

heavy covers with guards everywhere; unable anyone to entry nor exit the city." Miao Guang quietly glancing eyes over to Duke Ming place that no longer able to speak, she approached closer to Feng Ming and poured into his ear the hateful sound of her voice, "Elder sister, Rong Tian of sister must be very impatient. However, Brother King of mine was also very impatient." Miao Guang recognised Feng Ming was slightly shaken and began to giggle as she comforted said, "Do not be afraid, Brother King of mine will not embarrassed sister, if Brother King does made it difficult to sister, Miao Guang will definitely defend sister. I wanted Brother King to treat sister better than Rong Tian had treated sister, in that case then sister would never wish to escape."

She talked sweetly with her a pure innocent face but had always acting scheming, so Feng Ming no longer trust her and coolly glancing over her.

During the dinner meal, as the previous two days, Feng Ming forced eaten a small amount of food. However, this time when Feng Ming swallowed the food sudden the surface face quickly changed. He felt nausea and vomited everything out.

"How?"

Miao Guang hastily bent down to look at Feng Ming, who whole body was trembling. His face distorted and seemed endures great pain.

Cai Si also hastily came closer and surprisingly said, "Its Fu Yan poison attacked. However ... but there is still another four days away to the cycle? Is he faking? "

Miao Guang sifted, thoroughly check signs on Feng Ming, shook her head said, "He's not faked it, for the last two days he had been very angry and irritation emotional, it not help that I also used a lot of needles so the poison must have reacted sooner."

Feng Ming found the body painful convulsions, but could not able screaming aloud, the scenery before him gradually dull blackened, in the heart madness called out, '*Rong Tian save me!*'

"Cai Si, quickly bring the relief drugs here."

Cai Si hurriedly got the tablet to Miao Guang, who crushed it and mixed into the water, then lifted up the medicine bowl to Feng Ming and said, "Drink, this drug can reduce the toxicity, you have to wait until Brother King's treat all the poisonous."

Slowly brought the drugs into Feng Ming's mouth and waited, but the situation had not improved.

Feng Ming still trembled and convulsions as before, his face was paler; Miao Guang knew

something had gone wrong, immediately rushed forward and used needle acupuncture on some points to help Feng Ming to move.

'It's hurt...'

The unbearable pain that even his mentality could no longer tolerate did not decline slightly. He felt as if countless fists punched straight inside the head, the abdomen, and the chest. Feng Ming strength right now had drained and his body at icily cold to extremity point which cause him constantly quivering, his eyes urgently glared at Miao Guang, a sudden gushed of fresh blood was spitted out his mouth and heave all over Miao Guang's clothes.

Miao Guang and Cai Si were shuddering at the situation.

"How could this be happened? Apparently, he already had taken the delayed drugs."

Cai Si hesitated for few seconds and reminding, "Princess, it looks like Duke Ming's poison had reacted in its final stage."

Miao Guang shook her head, "No way, Brother King said he had poisoned him in Fan Jia inner palace, the poison last stage should be twelve months away, it still far away." She lowers her head looked at Feng Ming. "Hey, what wrong with you?" Feng Ming's face was pale now turned

blue purple; he had no willpower to respond. The blood was continuous reeking out the mouth, but the nostrils also traced of blood.

Inside Miao Guang's head was spinning, then suddenly remembered something and shake Feng Ming asked, "Did you eat any fruits? Duke Ming, what fruit had you eaten in Xi-Rei? "

Cai Si also appalled and asked, "Princess guessing he ate Yue Yue fruit?"

"Yue Yue fruit stimulates toxic effects of Fu Yan; it seems he had accidentally eaten them."

Miao Guang visage was paler, "One fruit of Yue Yue stimulate toxicity for one month, and it looks like he ate more than one fruit."

"Yue Yue was Xi-Rei treasured products, people who eat them could improve their healthy, it also a treatment for many toxins throughout the world. Duke Ming, why had he eaten so many Yue Yue fruit? "

They discussed for a while and Feng Ming situation grew more serious, currently even to the ears began reeking with blood.

Miao Guang looked at Feng Ming and groaned, "Oh, Rong Tian treated you very good, anything that is good will gives them to you for snack, this can also harm you."

Feng Ming barely breathing, his spirit still conscious and heard the situation from Cai Si and Miao Guang conversation, laughed miserable inside. Yue Yue were precious fruits but Rong Tian had everyone inside the prince's quarter eaten all their fancy, Feng Ming thought maybe Rong Tian did want him to eat the fruit to help in resistance Fu Yan's poison but thought Feng Ming might felt weird so Rong Tian had let everyone enjoyed the fruit as well.

Unfortunately, Rong Tian does not know that the fruit that resistance for many popular poisons but for Fu Yan it works as the most dangerous catalyse.

This indeed a dilemma which hands that is killing him.

Miao Guang scrutiny checked on Feng Ming's breathe, his respiratory revealed gradually depleted and the pupil began to expand gradually.

She had travelled along way to get here, before her brother king she had sworn even if she need to go up to heaven and down to the ocean she would bring Feng Ming back, how could she allowed him to die in her hand. Moreover, Feng Ming was a natural genius that very hard to find, a very good and kind hero soul, Miao Guang have never seen a man like that, contemplated for a while then turned to order, "Cai Si opened the box beside me, take out the purple wax pill and crushed it then mixed with water and bring it here."

Cai Si hesitant and wanted to say something but decided against it as he ultimately obeyed Miao Guang's command, open the box then brought the medicine bowl to her.

"Drink. If you do not drink, you will lose your life." Feng Ming's jaws join had hardened; Cai Si and Miao Guang worked together to pinch and squeeze his jaw open, slowly poured the concoction into his mouth.

The concoction was dark liquid and the majority of the liquid had forced down the throat, and only a few drops at the corner of mouth had slides off.

Miao Guang tensed and looked at Feng Ming until his body had stopped shrinking then she dared to breathe out with relieved. She had been cohabiting with Feng Ming for days thus has no ill will against him. She took a handkerchief; dipped into water gently wiped away the stain of blood began dried deposition on his ears and nostrils; took a deep breath and smiled, "Elder sister frightened me. Sister looks, such ingenious makeup had become like this, wretched; once again, I have to redone them. "

She called the maidservants for a set of new clothes, changed the clothes that stained with blood of Feng Ming before she helped Feng Ming dressing. After restored Feng Ming, she suddenly shouted aloud, "Ah, how could I forget?"

She took out the needles and stabs a few point until Feng Ming could no longer moved.

Feng Ming initially hoped she would forget about that, so when he recovers physically he fled but now all hopes had dashed away so his eyes revealed depression emotion.

The expressions on Feng Ming of course Miao Guang seen, taken him like a giant doll as she hugging and laughing, "You will not able to escape. Truly, Brother King is a very good person, wait until living together with Brother King then naturally, you will forget Rong Tian. Afterward, you will appreciate and gratitude for my assistance."

Had Feng Ming have any energy he would soon shifted his gaze to throw her contempt glares. Want him to forget Rong Tian and love Ruo Yan is a matter that was impossible. Miao Guang was a good strategist but she still was too young, when it comes to love matter she could not even compare to a ten-year-old girl in the modern times.

Miao Guang seemed like she had never been close to anyone before, since many days stayed close together with Feng Ming, her interactions with him grew more intimate. When she saw that Feng Ming colour from purple turn pale, her hand gently stroked his lifeless hand and muttered, "Duke Ming, I had saved you this time. This is great gift do not forget." The situation almost likes a girl playing with her childhood friend.

Feng Ming could not force a smile but laying crushed on Miao Guang's chest, his heart was not pleased to be the subject of her playing game.

Note:

Bewitching beauty: I could not find a closer translation for this phrase, it links to history in case of speaking about a woman so beautiful that could made man destroyed city and nation for her.

Helen of Troy is a well-known example.



Chapter III

The forged merchant group had urgently travelled days and nights so they could break away from Xi-Rei attention. Nevertheless, that night they had stopped to rest and the next morning even in the thick dews weather which still spreading over the land, the group already began prepared breakfast.

Miao Guang changed clothes for Feng Ming in the tent and began applauded, "Duke Ming has become more beautiful as everyday passing, this handsomeness, and wished I could hid you."

Feng Ming's heart thumped.

'In this case and occasion that Miao Guang had taken interest in me, maybe I do not have to be fallen into the hands of Ruo Yan.' His eyes flashed at the idea but Miao Guang smirked, fingers lightly pointed on Feng Ming's nose and teasing, "Do not dream in vain, even if you to be a hundred times more handsome I will not offenses my Brother King and let you return Xi-Rei."

She was very talented at mindreading thus Feng Ming's thought had immediately exposed, so he glared at her before turning his head away sharply.

The spring in Xi-Rei had arrived, everywhere on the land covered with fragrant of flowers and mattress of grass. Feng Ming remembered the previous winter when he rode on White Cloud with Rong Tian, on the excursion over the immense plains field, Rong Tian said to him when spring came then this vast places will be an oasis of deep green which brightly beautiful.

Currently, the grass was green without end over the lands, but he forced by Miao Guang without any goodbyes about to leave Xi-Rei.

His mood was gloomy disappointed.

After the breakfast meal, the merchant group began to move on again.

Miao Guang had two of her servants carried Feng Ming inside the carriage as she told him, "I advised you do not to think about escaping. I'll let you in a secret, Brother King had secretly waiting inside Xi-Rei for some time, about one more day, and we will meet him. If you were planning to escape from me I may at best only poke you with a few needles, while if you dared to escape out of his hand, you will taste catastrophic pain for certain." She snorted a few times but saw that Feng Ming did not revealed fears, her eyes slightly shows of anger before she stuck her tongue out, immediately started laughing and smiled before taken care of his makeup.

When she had finished his makeup, suddenly a driver servant from the first carriage held the

reins forced the horses abruptly stop. The carriages stopped too quickly, caused Miao Guang and Feng Ming fallen down on the ground as if they were bang against the door. Miao Guang gotten up from the carpet, pushed blinds away and barked, "What happened?"

Outside the carriage, everyone running wildly and the sound of horses' galloped rang out.

Cai Si rode a horse toward them and clasped his hands said, "Princess, we are facing bandits. Plead Princess right away return to the carriage; Cai Si led others to guard Your Highness."

Miao Guang's face changed said, "Is it the infamous Toan Phong bandits' group between the Tong and Xi-Rei Kingdoms' borders?"

"It seems that way. This bandits' group was rumour had dispatched by Tong Kingdom to harass the Xi-Rei borders, Xi-Rei have declared war on Tong Kingdom as the result, but I had not thought we would meet them."

Miao Guang nodded and said. "The carriage would be easily attack, we could not lose Duke Ming so it better you taken him on a horse and others followed for protection. Regarding to money that we have here just donated to the bandits should be okay." She instantly went back into the carriage and helped Feng Ming onto Cai Si's horse.

The killing sounds were earth shattering. On the mountains there were flashes of people appeared, about hundreds of Toan Phong bandits were ambush as they rushed out in the open, each was contained interlace thick heavy fabrics on their faces.

The headman of the group screaming loudly, "Brothers, let kidnapped a beautiful lady for Big Brother for keeping."

The group made thunder roars responded then charging forward to the merchant group as if they had volunteered for suicide missions.

Cai Si one hand gripped Feng Ming while another using sword fought against the enemy, he thought these bandits indeed fearsome, no wonder they had able freely move across the two countries. Suddenly at his side, a hissing wind resonance as a large bandit rode his horse forward; the blade force swung was so strong to the extent that Cai Si almost dropped his sword.

'How Toan Phong bandits have such a powerful martial art person?'

The face covered only two deep eyes were exposed, it was voiceless but the multitude of vibration within the sights makes other shuddered.

The posture of this man had given off an extremely imposing atmosphere, this definitely the leader!

The two strikes, both which Cai Si just able avoided. The bandit seems not attempted to obtain Cai Si's head but rather trying to kill his horse. "Clang; clang; clang!" Three strikes and the horse could not withstand as it whine final breath before going down.

Cai Si screamed and dismounted. Before he could touch the ground, was received an aggressive charge kicked into the abdomen. Feng Ming had no strength and unable to resist, instantly caught and taken away easily.

Cai Si horrified, and about to dive back to regain Feng Ming but got slashed directly on the shoulder as it was easy flicker of a hand, in the blink of an eye the bandit turned the horse over to the group, sword up the air in one swoop.

The headman that led before saw his leader had found Feng Ming, immediately shout, "Brothers, we had captured the beautiful woman so let start killing."

Immediately, the entire group of robbery seems had received their instructions, at once began to kill without any remorse. The bitterly cried constantly roared echoes were on the sides of Miao Guang.

Feng Ming's mouth could not speak, but the situation was clearly had turned upside down, he cried silently. What fate that he should met wave after wave of bad lucks, which struck at him. It was bad enough that he had taken by Ruo Yan, now he stole by a group of bandit to become the leader's woman.

The leader of the bandits pulled Feng Ming closer to his chest and his eyes peered at him for the moment then immediately smiled and said softly, "Little beautiful lady surely pretty, after return the palace definitely force you to wear female clothes regularly for my viewing." He quickly pulled down the veil and revealing a clear contours handsome face.

One of the worlds bi-preeminent, it was Xi-Rei King --- Rong Tian!

When Rong Tian showed his face, in four directions trumpet sounds of order were emerges. Xi-Rei soldiers appeared from behind the mountain, the bandits' custom dresses had changed to Xi-Rei troops' uniform. Rong Tian stood at the back before an erected Xi-Rei's flag as it soaring in the wind, magnificent.

Feng Ming's heart suddenly heavy, if not for a few needles from Miao Guang punctured him that he had no strength he would have instantly given the other man a few punches and struggled out of his embraced.

'You're Idiot! The Jerk had once again playing game to scare me!'

Although, his mouth could not able to speak but the eyes were emotional flashes.

Rong Tian lowers his head and kisses slightly on the lips, he smiling face which Feng Ming's favourite to see, "Do not cry, I feel bad."

The headman who had screamed earlier, rode the horse directly in front of Feng Ming, giggled before removed his mask, "Your servant knew the game would scare Duke Ming, this was the intention of the Great King." It turned out the man was Lie-er.

The battle end as Xi-Rei troops stormed from the mountain to below the valley and continually breaks the will of any resistance of combating from the enemy. Miao Guang and Cai Si's group injured, from minor to large wounds on the bodies, as they bound tightly by Xi-Rei troops and brought before Rong Tian's horse.

Rong Tian sat on the horse while holding Feng Ming, arrogantly looked down at the prisoners whose faces were dull and listless, and laughed for awhile said, "Princess had underestimate Rong Tian, how could I just permit you taken my beloved away."

Miao Guang knew everything had failed, glared coldly upward but did not said anything.

Cai Si shouted, "Rong Tian, you're ruthless ignoble person, who dared to give your lover Yue Yue fruit to increased toxicity affects, taking advantage of the Princess kind heart in order to cure the poison."

"Ha ha, when assess of the ignoble I'm no match for Ruo Yan. Hn, Ruo Yan seems to be very daring, underrate Rong Tian and taunt by hidden himself within Xi-Rei boundary. This time he will taste a little warning from me."

Miao Guang and Cai Si horror-struck and glanced each other as they both worried for Ruo Yan safety.

In the distance, a dust billowing emerged as a group of cavalries rode toward Rong Tian. Tong general driven in front and led the army, when he in front of Rong Tian, dismounted the horse and reported, "Great King, Jian Ming had led three thousand soldiers and ambushed Ruo Yan where he had hidden at the border. Li Kingdom's army was heavy casualties, but ..." He hesitated and glanced at Rong Tian, ashamed continue, "However we could not find Ruo Yan among the pile of corpses."

Miao Guang's crowd after heard Ruo Yan was safe had exhaled with relieved.

Rong Tian had recovered Feng Ming so his feeling was very good, gesture with his hand said, "Ruo Yan wise and cunning, how can he be easily killed? The poison Fu Yan on Feng Ming also gone so finally had relieved my anxiety. Miao Guang Princess, once again invited you as a guest to follow us back to the capital. Lie-er, communicate with Rong Hu that he no longer need to invite the eccentric man to Xi-Rei to cured the poison, so tell your Elder Brother to come back. "

"Yes!"

Rong Tian lowers his head to see Feng Ming who still followed him with his eyes, he slightly kisses on Feng Ming's lips, move closer to his ear and whispered, "Feng Ming, let us return home." He reined the horse to turn back.

The Xi-Rei's Royal Flag slowly moved away. In between the groups of troops with the exception of Xi-Rei King and Duke Ming who had been found to return home, also the Princess of Li Kingdom who was taken as a prisoner - Miao Guang.

Feng Ming kidnapped for five days, but they felt like they had separated from each other for a few reincarnations.

Rong Tian planned for Feng Ming ate Yue Yue fruit then led troops followed the kidnapper. He waited until Miao Guang's heart softened to detoxification Feng Ming. He had arranged

everything to satisfaction and thought about after returning with Feng Ming that he will need servants to take care of him, so he had brought Chiu Lian's group from the palace with him to stay in a close by area.

Rong Tian brought Feng Ming to the nearest town, Chiu Lian and the other maidservants were running and screaming from the room to welcome them.

"Duke Ming had finally returned!"

"The poison must have cured now."

"Of course, otherwise how the Great King could take Feng Ming back here."

Chiu Yue wiped her tears, "Duke Ming had become so thin, those Li Kingdom's servants do not know how to serve Your Grace."

Lie-er laughed, "Duke Ming plenty blessed, he was served by Li Kingdom Princess' Miao Guang." Behind him Rong Tian suddenly appeared.

Rong Tian glared and scanned over them at once and coldly said, "Feng Ming body is weak, why are you so noisy?" He put Feng Ming down onto the bed, lowers his head and comforted, "Do

not be afraid, those silence pills only last for a day, wait until tomorrow you will speak again. I really am missing your voice."

Inside Feng Ming who had piled hundreds of questions why, but he cannot speak them into words, his limbs also temporarily unable to move and could only see Rong Tian lingering touched him, of course who had not stop taking advantage of the situation.

Rong Tian excited as he embraced Feng Ming, slept peacefully throughout the night, the day after Feng Ming finally being able to control movement and talk. He firstly gave a few punched on Rong Tian before growled, "You had once again laid a trap on me?"

"Why am I entrapped you?" Rong Tian said innocently, "I was only tried to cure the poison on you."

"Why did you not tell me I was poisoned? Why you did not tell me of the plans either? You want to scare me to dead. "

Chiu Lian's group heard the screamed and signals to each other as they all stood outside the door without entering the room.

Rong Tian explained, "You such a fool, letting you know were the same as telling Miao Guang.

Feng Ming this is not a joking matter, if we had not found the cure you will be dead." While he speaking he leaning on Feng Ming, took the hands that had been constantly pounded into his body.

"Known that you were poison, my heart could not endure the pain and even more so when I put you into the hands of Miao Guang which I had slept restlessly these last few days. You can ask Lie-er, because of surveillance these last few days and nights on the convoy of Miao Guang I had not dared to lose the sight for any second, feared of losing you."

"You tricked me eaten Yue Yue fruit!"

"Had you not eaten Yue Yue fruit, Miao Guang would never have given you the antidote for Fu Yan? Otherwise you will be in pain once a month, even if you feel no pain; I would have felt it for you." Rong Tian playing with Feng Ming's earlobe, constantly gently licked, "I'd searched very hard for obtaining the Yue Yue fruits, also coax you ate all of them, had made sure that you eaten no more or less than eleven fruits, it was very difficult."

"You ..."

"For your cure, I had used much efforts, why are you not even grateful a little?"

“You...”

"Do not be angry; let me kiss you."

"O... O...ah...ah"

Along the way back to the capital, on the road, they had the opportunity to enjoy natural scenery of Xi-Rei's spring, many abandoned old mountains range was now using as terracing field project and water wheel that Feng Ming had proposed which could produce more food and solved the food shortage in Xi-Rei.

Rong Tian had undertakes being the guide man, whatever matter that Feng Ming asked him, he had carefully explained in detail. He also made an exception for Feng Ming rode alone on the horse. This was to avoid of him being bored and idles times on the carriage.

Feng Ming excited rode White Clouds and galloped in front of the troops, which alarms Rong Tian greatly that he had to follow closely for safety concern. Chiu Lian's group stood inside the carriage and grinned, only when they had stopped for the night to sleep that was when the maidservants able served Tian Rong and Feng Ming.

Five days later, they had returned to capital. Feng Ming went back to his familiar residence, the prince's quarter.

Rong Tian sweet words had tricked Feng Ming that he was no longer angry hence started taken an interest on the outcome of Miao Guang.

"Rong Tian, you will not kill Miao Guang right?"

Rong Tian turned and asked, "You do not want to? I forgotten you had lived with her for several days. Although the lady was not beautiful, but has a rare unique temperament just like her strategy, only attack on those who are not ready." He could not avoid revealed a sour poignant feeling of disappointment.

Feng Ming snorted, "I forgot, she was originally wanted to have ally marriage with Xi-Rei King. Okay, do not invade the issue; are you going to kill Miao Guang? "

"No." Rong Tian shook his head, "She makes a good hostage, and it would be a waste otherwise. Ruo Yan was merciless but she stills his only sister."

"Alright, I'm at peace. She was dreadful, but the essence of her character was only a playful young lady."

Rong Tian sighed, "Feng Ming, you're too soft hearted. If not for me, that playful lady had already thrown you into the arms of Ruo Yan, among everyone the person who should not be worry about her is you."

Feng Ming regretted and quietly nodded, "Yes, I still not familiar with the snares and pitfalls."

His faced shown of acceptance for failure.

Rong Tian compression his laughter, grabbed the shoulder of Feng Ming and lowers his head said, "Had I not already said those snares and pitfalls should let me shielding you, is okay."

"Good." Feng Ming nodded.

"So the next time when I plotted, you will not be angry."

"Nonetheless, whenever you attempted to schemes, they always deceive and fool me..." Feng Ming felt tragic as he raised his head.

"Fine, I'll swear. After this event if not necessary I'll not deceived you." Rong Tian seriously said, "But when necessary, I'll certainly do."

'What rubbish moral compromise is that?'

If speaking romantic term like this in modern times, would mean *'are you prepare for a bachelor life.'*

'Openly, nonchalance said those words, which mean he will certainly trick me again; this person

must be born as a fraud! Delicious sweet words for half day, was the reason for me to accept it is OK to deceive me? Who in this world would be stupid enough to agree so that you could honest legitimately to cheat on them?'

Feng Ming plaintive whispered to himself for half day, ultimately did not won against the light of Rong Tian's eyes quietly focuses on him, in the end pouted his lip and nodded obediently.





Chapter IV

When Ruo Yan was nineteen years old he ascended to the throne and freely doing whatever he wanted in the world but now there obstacles blocking in his path. Rong Tian had discovered his hideout inside Xi-Rei's boundary, his personal guards that travelled with him were all killed thus alone he had struggled and escaped back to Li Kingdom, additionally his only sister Miao Guang held hostage by Rong Tian.

Feng Ming at that time was once again happily living together with Rong Tian and lovey-dovey all day long.

Ruo Yan at the start of conflict had an advantage and then for a moment he fallen into the bottom pit; from being the one who held the antidote of Feng Ming poison and a threat to Xi-Rei, but now he fallen and subject to Rong Tian because Miao Guang arrested.

Rong Tian sent a message to Li Kingdom and asked for explanation to why Miao Guang had forcible in abduction of Duke Ming, also requested Li Kingdom to offer food and horses as compensation.

"Are you using Miao Guang exchange for food and horses?"

"Yes, a lot of food and horses." Rong Tian laughing replied.

Feng Ming frowned, "But Miao Guang still was a Princess, isn't such a trade a little too disgraceful?"

"I had never implied that I'll return her, regardless of whatever happens Miao Guang will stay for a long-term in Xi-Rei, we shall request Ruo Yan this and that and he have no other choice but to comply to all of our demands." Rong Tian's face revealed comparatively shrewdness.

"Ah, you're blackmailing him." Feng Ming realised, "There is no way Ruo Yan would follow your stipulation? He was so awful and most certainly would not outdo by us because of Miao Guang. "

A few days later, Li Kingdom's envoy arrived Xi-Rei with the responded of Li Kingdom.

Ruo Yan did not agreed to compensate of food and horses, instead offerings a block of pale green jade.

Inside the prince's quarter, Feng Ming curiously examines the gifted item.

"It's indeed a riddle." Feng Ming shook his head, "I cannot deduce what Ruo Yan was thinking. Is this jade gem really worth a lot? Ruo Yan uses this in exchange for his sister?"

Rong Tian calmed, staring at the piece of jade for a second and highly voice called, "Lie-er, you come here."

Lie-er had always guarding the door outside, upon heard the call immediately entered.

Rong Tian pointed at the piece of jade, "This is the counter offer from Ruo Yan, what do you think?"

Lie-er's eyes saw the piece of jade, as if he received a punch right into the chest and his face become pale, knelt down in front Rong Tian and suffering implored, "Great King..."

Feng Ming surprised and dazed by Lie-er reaction.

In Rong Tian's eyes flashed coldly, with rays of sharpness and quiet voice asked, "Do you think this swap is worth it? Miao Guang is the right-hand man of Ruo Yan, letting her goes as if returns a tiger back to the forest, which will likely generate a strong rival to Xi-Rei."

"Great King, but..." Lie-er upon heard the words understood that Rong Tian had bluntly rebuff his begging, he traumatised then his beseeching eyes switched over to Feng Ming, "Duke Ming, please Your Grace have mercy and rescue your servant's Elder Brother."

Feng Ming stunned, "What? Your Elder Brother...Rong Hu..."

"It is a piece of jade belong to Elder Brother, your servants each have a piece." Lie-er quickly dragged another piece of jade out of his hand, indeed was identical to the piece that Ruo Yan had sent, "Elder Brother would never lose this jade, if Ruo Yan had this piece of jade, in that case Elder Brother had definite been captured. Duke Ming please has mercy, save your servant Elder Brother. "

He knew Feng Ming heart was gentler and compared asked for mercy with Rong Tian who always focused the big picture hence was not useful as pleading with Feng Ming.

Feng Ming hastily stretched out his hand to raise Lie-er up while nodding, "Do not worry, Rong Tian will certain be saves Rong Hu, you are all my most important attendants, isn't that right, Rong Tian?" He turned and glared at Rong Tian.

Rong Tian iron wills as his eyes looked outside the door and gently explained, "Miao Guang is the Princess of a country, what they asking for exchange, Ruo Yan deals were too rotten."

"Duke Ming, Ruo Yan has venomous tricks, if Elder Brother remains in his hands, I'm afraid that ..." Lie-er's eyes light began emotional.

Feng Ming upon heard Lie-er pleading, at once his kind-heartedness was move, he could not think since Rong Tian have become King that the man heart no longer be benevolence. In the eyes of Feng Ming, Rong Hu safely return was even far more important than hold Miao Guang

here. He glance and glared discontent at Rong Tian, snorted, patting Lie-er's shoulder and advised, "Lie-er, I need to speak alone with Rong Tian, you first go outside. No need to be worry, we will definitely save your Elder Brother."

Lie-er knew Feng Ming will started his power struggles, lest the whole world who can changing Rong Tian's mind was only this person, immediately accepted the command and wiped his tear as he walked away.

After Lie-er departed the room Feng Ming closed the door. His head was spinning for countless benevolence examples of great king throughout the history. However, he hesitated how he would approach to education and persuade this man, who head was stuffy with schemes and pragmatism which called Rong Tian, "I really cannot believe you would not agree to exchange Miao Guang for Rong Hu, as a human being you need conscience and compassion, as a Great King even more...ahah..."

Feng Ming was being indignant and rapidly lectured Rong Tian; he wanted Rong Tian to become a righteousness king like Liu Bei*, although he only started his argument in which Rong Tian had rushed forward cutting it off with hugs and kisses.

"Ah ... I have not done ... ah ah ..." Feng Ming indignation was angrier as he struggled with his fists; though Rong Tian expertly caught and twisted imprison the hands behind the back.

"What else could you say? If not to tell me to let Miao Guang go and save Rong Hu." Rong Tian laughed lightly as opposed to his deep gloomy posture when Lie-er was there.

"Yes!"

"I ask you, Miao Guang status is important or Rong Hu status is important?"

"I'll let you know, all human life is equally precious." Feng Ming opened his eyes glared at Rong Tian and standing tall.

Saving a life was the basic of humanity, if he had decided to assist Rong Tian in conquers all the nations; hence, he must guidance him to become a benevolent king - at least not to be someone who allowed his subjects died in spite like the white face Cao Cao.

Rong Tian stepped back a few steps, narrowed his eyes observed Feng Ming, arms folded said, "Indeed, the posture does credit the prestige of Duke Ming. I asked you, have I said that I will not exchange Miao Guang for Rong Hu?"

"This...your attitude just then..."

"Rong Hu had been beside me for many years, not only he is my confidant, in my heart he and Lie-er considered as younger brothers. What do you said how it possible because a young lady

that I would not dare to breathe as to sacrifice him for the like of her?" Rong Tian snorted, "If it was Ruo Yan, then maybe I would worry a bit." *(This means if the person in captive is Ruo Yan instead of Miao Guang then he would think twice.)*

Feng Ming's eyes brighten up instantly, revealing small dimples, "So you had decided to accept the agreement with Ruo Yan, Miao Guang in exchange for Rong Hu?"

"Uhm." Rong Tian dignified nod, but then change the topic, "But tonight you have to let me eat a full meal."

Feng Ming scratched his head, "Are you hungry? Now we call Chiu Lian's group to bring food."

"Do not play dumb! What I want to eat, you obviously know inside." Rong Tian's face was gloomy.

"I also want to eat you." Feng Ming whispered.

Rong Tian relaxed and laughed loudly, stroking Feng Ming's waist said, "Let see who eat whom."

"Wait a minute, we had shifted the topic." Feng Ming pushed Rong Tian large hand away, acted seriously and preached him, "You're a Great King, when we are discussing important politics issue, and how you sudden could change the topic? Now, let us return to that. First, you have

consent to exchange Miao Guang with Rong Hu, this decision of course is extremely correct.

Second..." He glancing reproached at Rong Tian. "Why had you used this bizarre attitude just then to deceive me, perhaps the Great King like teasing and tricking me so it become a habit that every day in which you do not made me worry or restless, would feel discomfort and uncomfortable? I let you know, the excess toxic inside me had not completely gone, pent-up emotions will probably pathogenic."

Rong Tian did not seems to show any shame as his brazen hands circled around Feng Ming's waist, pulling him into the chest and kissing a great deal before answered, "I am a Great King, except for understanding politics and military strategies, also must be familiar and control people psychology. After this situation, Lie-er and Rong Hu will be loyal to you and do their best, bravely and forget themselves to secure your protection. Duke Ming had two great loyal servants beside like that; I am the Great King of Xi-Rei will also have some peace of mind." He whispered a deep voice into Feng Ming's ear then laughed and began using his tongue licking and teased Feng Ming's earlobe.

Feng Ming felt his chest was burning hot; emotional looked at Rong Tian, he no longer scolding him for while "discussion politics" had taken advantage of Duke Ming.

"Tonight I want to eat you." Rong Tian whispered while nibbled Feng Ming's earlobe.

Feng Ming flushed shook his head resolutely, "No, I shall eat you. Last time I had also eaten you."

"Last time was due to poison so you were not suitable to be positioned below. However, the poison on you had cured and I have waited for your body to heal for several days now so you should reward me a bit."

Feng Ming raised eyebrows, "No whining. You are a King, only you who could reward others, how could you ask other people to reward you? "

"All right, so I'll reward you, to let me eat you."

"Disregard!"

Feng Ming's whole body persistently under attack with embarrassed kisses while he was laying on the chest of Rong Tian, in which he relentlessly twisting, thrashing about.

Rong Tian played for a while before remembering Lie-er who was standing outside and waiting for their decision, let Feng Ming go and said, "Go outside and let Lie-er know the good news, tonight I'll be back for the reward."

Feng Ming's tongue stuck out, he really had completely forgotten about Lie-er who was waiting outside, he was too ashamed and immediately bounced up.

"Lie-er come here!" when he open the door, saw Lie-er's eyes were intense red, anxious and agonizing as each steps he ran forward to Feng Ming.

Feng Ming stared at Lie-er and heavily sighed, "Oh, Lie-er..."

"Duke Ming..." Lie-er's facial expression was anxious restlessness, his fantastic pupil had dared not to blink.

Feng Ming suddenly switched gently loosen up face, winked at him, "Rong Tian had agreed. We feel that used Miao Guang exchange for Rong Hu is very worthwhile."

Lie-er temporary shock, did not dare to believe, blinked relentlessly, suddenly collapsed, kneeled and cried, "Thanks Duke Ming! Thanks Your Grace!" kowtow while bang his head vigorously in front of Feng Ming, and then toward the room, shouting, "Thank you, Great King!" continues bang his head.

"Okay, that is enough, quickly stands up." Feng Ming pulled Lie-er up, smiled and said, "Now do not need to be worry anymore."

"Yes."

The methods of tackle what to do with Miao Guang had immediately determined.

The specific details of the exchange must have someone else in charge. Feng Ming suddenly remembered a concern, asked Rong Tian "Do we need to put something on Miao Guang?"

Rong Tian surprised looks at him.

Feng Ming, a little sheepishly, blushing ashamed said, "I'm nasty aren't I? Not ethical...I mean, Ruo Yan's pharmacies was very dangerous, if he poisoned with something on the Rong Hu, later we can also use Miao Guang and threatened Ruo Yan to get the antidote. "

"Ha ha!" Rong Tian mouth open his appreciative, "Feng Ming, Miao Guang had expanded your thinking and obviously now are smarter."

"Rong Tian..." Feng Ming shouted a warning.

"What do you think of course is right. However, who is Ruo Yan, if we are poison Miao Guang, when we exchange he would be immediately detected, and then Rong Hu would died. You do not need to worry Rong Hu have problems, even it was "Fu Yan" could be checking through his pulses, hence if Rong Hu was poisoned, we will immediately executed Miao Guang on the spot. Ruo Yan will not do so something stupid." Rong Tian explained slowly, "moreover, Ruo Yan and I is a country monarch, monarch credibility is the most important objective so we seemly cannot afford play silly games to destroy our reputation."

"Ah..." Feng Ming bitten his teeth and bowed his head gloomy, humiliated in low voice said,
"Really sorry, I do not know why am suddenly so terrible."

Rong Tian lowers his lips to Feng Ming's ear, use a small voice whispered, "Stupid, nastiness...
want to be nasty should be done at the right time, you understand?"

Feng Ming opened his eyes like a naive bambino, shook his head said, "I do not understand.
How nasty should be doing at the right time? "

"Even if I to tell you, you will not understand. Xi-Rei Duke Ming can only be entrapping by
other, not vice versa." Rong Tian's finger point on the tip of Feng Ming's pretty nose and
laughed loudly.

Feng Ming pulled a punch, used what he had taught by Rong Tian to get even with him.

They played and teased each other for a while; Rong Tian happily laughed and contented then
stood up to go back to work on the country affair.

"Feng Ming, tonight." He winked at Feng Ming, made the other man flushed and on guard.

Feng Ming indeed blushing as he glared aggressively at him, withdrawn from behind the small
blade, he waving the weapon up and down and intimidated, "Do not hurt me! Otherwise..."

This remark had to be considered as indirect acceptance, Rong Tian did not wait for him to finish and took the blade which brandished in front and thrown it aside, lean close to Feng Ming's ear deeper tone laughed, "It will not hurt much, I'm certain be very careful with you. Chu generals had been waiting outside the hall more than half hour now; I have to go straight away. Oh, be a Great King was not easy. "

"I see you're burning with higher inspiration, hate not being a Great King that rules the whole world." Feng Ming glared at him once.

Rong Tian agreeable laughed, "As a man how could not have great inspiration and valour? I swear to have the world!" Once again, boldly kisses Feng Ming again then strode away.

As a man how could not have great inspiration and valour? Feng Ming looked at the back of Rong Tian tall shaped, truly an immodest unparalleled man.

'I want to help you. I will assist you to conquer the whole world, Rong Tian of mine need to stand on the top of mountain and see thousands of living beings; can point at the sky able to swear and laugh. I do believe you will be able to bring orderly and peace to the kingdoms then no more war. After that, I will provide scientific understanding which I had to contribute and making everyone to live comfortable and prosperity.'

Feng Ming felt his mission was natural blooming and alone facing the lonely prince's quarter but he was still distantly daydreams.

Chiu Lian walked pass, saw he stood alone was contemplating and his facial shown that he deep in thought. She laughed, "What is Duke Ming thinking? The Great King had long gone, why Your Grace still are standing there alone."

Feng Ming recollected himself, knew that he had been daydream too much, scratched his head shyly, "Ah, stand a bit more is good for the body."

"The Great king absented so Duke Ming plays with your maidservants or you will be bored alone." Chiu Lian looked up at the sky, "it's good weather today so we could go out riding. The Great King advised that if Duke Ming was leaving the palace you must take Lie-er, and also not to leave the city. "

"That's right, Duke Ming agreed if he going for riding outside he will take us maidservants."

Chiu Yue had entered from door immediately raised her voice loudly.

Chiu Xing followed Chiu Yue also innocently joined her, "Yes, Duke Ming brings your maidservants along thus we could serve Your Grace. The more people coming would mean it should be safer, right Lie-er?" She turned her head around to ask the last person entered that is Lie-er.

The intense red eyes of Lie-er seemed gone, clapped his hand laughed, "Yes! These last few days Duke Ming had been resting, soon will be bore to death. Today let us go out riding together and go for a picnic similar to the style last time that Duke Ming had explained."

"All right! Bring a little fruit that was tributed, and food, then find large grassland area which breezy to have our snack. Chiu Xing can sing to us."

Chiu Lian listened to that part was excite, "Let your servant to prepare the basket of food, jams and fruit for the snack that everybody would likes."

"I'm not going out playing." Feng Ming's attitude was unusual, coughs and seriously said, "The whole day just playing around, wasting our lives. You all clearly heard from today onwards we will do our best in performing our duties, suffering sorrow to be shared with Rong Tian. Lie-er, you should socializing more with the noble and welfare officials, using the time to probe what the courtiers are up to and any news information should directly report to Rong Tian immediately. Chiu Lian, your cooking techniques is the finest, Rong Tian work hard all day, you must make more nutritious food for him to eat, that's right, every morning to give him a cup of milk and an apple hence prevent being fall to sickness."

He respectably orders everyone a list of thing to do which leaving all silence.

Chiu Lian's group and Lie-er glanced at each other, in the eyes revealed suspicion and wonder if Duke Ming felt uncomfortable somewhere?

Chiu Yue carefully inquired, "Duke Ming, your servant and Chiu Xing..."

"The two of you should not be mischievous and harassed everyone all day long." Feng Ming gestured his hand, "No more nuisance to Rong Tian, not to let him think too hard and not wasting his time to look after you."

Inside everyone thought, *'isn't that all had been done under Duke Ming orders.'*

Everyone's eyes displayed their bizarre feeling.

"Duke Ming, please sit." Lie-er slowly walked to his side, place the hand on the tea table, frowning and checked for his pulses, "Normally, no illness." He sadly shook his head.

Chiu Lian's group breathe out relieves; everyone in union patted their chests then glanced secretly over each other and cover their mouths laughing.

Feng Ming glared swiftly over the four of them, "Everything is fine, why you are laughing hideous like that? Rong Tian has decided to exchange Miao Guang for Rong Hu, since she still here it is good opportunity to see her." He stood up.

The smiles on Lie-er instant withered away and surprised asks, "Why Duke Ming want to see Miao Guang?"

"That's right, that kind of malicious woman, Duke Ming better be as far as possible away from her." Chiu Lian also nodded.

Feng Ming said, "She is in prison what to afraid of?"

Lie-er perceived that Feng Ming really want to leave the prince's quarter, he tagged along, "your servant will also go with Duke Ming." Lien Nhi followed after Feng Ming.

The palace dungeon location on the left side, where it only held extremely important political prisoners, compared to other prison sites this place are much superior. In the cell room was clean and elegantly decorated, even the food was also cooking by specialist chef. Of course, the guarding here was more stringent than in other prison sites.

Feng Ming initially was worried Miao Guang had been tortured or mistreated inside the prison, but upon saw Miao Guang still wearing fine brocade clothes and eaten good food, as well have mental state normal, only her wrists and legs were iron handcuffs thus he was relieved.

"Hello Princess, I'm here for a visit." Feng Ming walked into the cell, "It's good news, Rong Tian has let Your Highness return to Li Kingdom. Xi-Rei King have a great generous heart, he

not reckoning with your kidnapped me, hoping Princess when return home will not oppose Xi-Rei again." Lie-er by Feng Ming side approached closer to her, his face remain without a slightest sympathy and stood on one side as if Miao Guang made any wrong move will immediately attack.

Miao Guang took the shoes off and sat on the rock bed, leaned back against the wall with arms around her knees, glared at Feng Ming, then on the lips softly smirked and coldly smile, "Thanks Duke Ming for your worrying thought, Miao Guang already know. If said Xi-Rei King was a generous man, and then let Miao Guang reminded Duke Ming that the poisoned on your body was cured by Miao Guang."

Feng Ming admitted, "Yes, you had cured me."

"If not for Miao Guang momentary compassion and cured Duke Ming, Your Grace should be now dead because the trap setup by Xi-Rei King." She turned and stared at Feng Ming, mildly said, "The heart is unpredictable, Xi-Rei King had pushed the plans forward despite it was mortally endanger to Duke Ming. In the future, Duke Ming should also be careful with Rong Tian a bit."

Lie-er shouted, "Miao Guang have some nerve, a prisoner dared to articulate break up the Great King and Duke Ming?"

Chapter V

Feng Ming stopped Lie-er with a gesture of his hand, smiled and asked Miao Guang, "Had the Princess heard the tale of "death war"?"

"Death War (Last Stand)?"

Feng Ming saw Miao Guang's face displayed with curiosity; Feng Ming silently thought '*it is time for performance*'. With sombre face as he approached the window, under the sunlight head turned upward looks thoughtfully for a while, then slowly opening, "In the past there was a great general, who was bound to lead an army which fought for a final battle. The enemy had greater strength in numbers and his army was weak. Before the battle, the general had made his camp and stationed the army in front of a large river. Many soldiers had disapproved with the decision since there was nowhere to retreat, if they lost the battle the entire army would be annihilate. Everyone rushed forward request the general to amend his decision of camping location at the riverbank. However, he was nonchalant and the army eventually still stationed closely to riverbank that will have no way of escaping from behind. Your Highness, do you think what he had done is right thing?" He turned his back on Miao Guang and did not even turned around to see her replied.

"It's too risky."

"Indeed it was risky but he won." Feng Ming suddenly turned around; eyes were brightening, as he looked straight at Miao Guang, "Do Your Highness knows why he won?"

Miao Guang was pensive for a moment before replied, "Because there is no road to turn back so the soldiers can only suicide attacked the enemy."

Feng Ming suddenly applauded, nodded said, "Yes! It is because there was no road to turn back. The 'Death war', was the only way for soldiers to enhance their courage and venturesome to attack the enemy. Therefore to be defeated would mean their lives were forfeits, no longer able to escape so who would not strived forward and struggled with their best efforts in resistance? An army so desperate, how could they not win?" Feng Ming had tried to remember the demonstration section of the celebrity speakers on the TV hence had his postured mimics like their acting and riveting a similar atmosphere. His eyes looked intently at Miao Guang and slowly said, "It's was a 'death war' in the past, Princess should trying to remember this tale so when you are back home then retell to Ruo Yan."

"Why should I tell Brother King?"

"Since, he had forced our hands. I hope that Ruo Yan should know that if not let other to have way out would only to incite their resistance and venturesome nature for survival. He had poisoned me so he could control Xi-Rei, which result at the cost of his own sister life for a gamble. At Xi-Rei boundary, if he hadn't quickly fled would have soon been killed by Tong

general; if Rong Tian had not valued the life of his subordinate to meet the condition for exchange of Ruo Yan, then Your Highness would have only spend the rest of your life here in this prison of Xi-Rei. Your Highness when return, it's best to advises your Brother King, advised him not to attempts to conquer Xi-Rei again." Feng Ming thrown out a warning and said coldly, "The Princess does not need to invest your energy in break up my relationship with Rong Tian. Rong Tian strategy was very special; he had used the most advanced art of war, this approach known as '*in death there is life to be born*'. If it had been me, I would have also done the same."

Miao Guang frowned and whispered, "In death there is life?"

"Xi-Rei art of war had never been spread outside the kingdom; of course for the Princess does not know should not be a strange reason." Feng Ming intestines was cramping inside the belly because he had suppress his laughter, continuous with serious face and played his rhetoric boasting role, "Actually, Rong Tian are highly educative and his erudition was unmatched by anyone in the world. The mathematics methods he developed, had currently written over three hundred books, art of war is about a hundred and eight strategies, and the "*in death there is life*" tactic design which is only the hundred and seven tactic. That method is the least significant."

"One hundred and eight strategies?" Miao Guang eyes widened. If Rong Tian indeed found such procedure then he truly formidable person whom her brother king had underestimate then. Since the variation estimate of enemy's strength was incorrect collected than it likely lead to extreme defeats in warfare. Upon her returned she would immediately report this to her brother king. However, she was still suspicious of Feng Ming's words, "If the art of war strategies of Rong

Tian has reached that level, why had he not use military force to takeover of the eleven countries?"

"You believe everyone is like your Brother King, to make others misery?" Feng Ming knew whether eventually Rong Tian must take over her country. However, he still pretending Rong Tian as a saintly person that do not like killing and have loved for humanity, he also implied in the speech by cursed Ruo Yan name for being ruthless as a wolf and finally he discreetly scrutiny looked at Miao Guang, " Princess do not believe Rong Tian's strategies are awesome?"

Miao Guang smiled slightly, turned and looked Feng Ming and calmly said, "Whatever Duke Ming likes to say then it must be so."

"Hn, if you do not believe, it does not matter." Feng Ming blinked, opened his mouth said, "A good general should know how to use military strategies that is to be able to discern the enemy truth accuracy strength then able to identify outcomes basis when combating."

"Leading an army is like that, and then morality of battle will be examined by later generation."

Feng Ming smiling confidently and continues gloat with the legendary "Zhuge Liang story" as he presented them before Miao Guang, "A general able to predict the winning outcomes will need to know: First, the King of the two countries which one is righteous smarter? Second, the generals of the two countries, which party are wiser and talented? Third, the officials of two countries, which party are more intellectual? Fourth, the foods stock up of two countries which

party have more abundantly? Fifth, the soldiers of two countries, which party training are more seriously? Sixth, the two countries' military regulations, which party are more regulated and orderly? Seventh, the two countries battle speed which party are run faster? Eighth, the two countries' terrains, which terrain are weaker? Ninth, the strategists of two countries which party had more ensnare strategy? Tenth, of the two parties, which of the party was inferior to neighbours? Eleventh, two countries' power which of the party more prosperity? Twelfth, the two countries' citizens, which party have more secure settlement? Compare these ways of the two sides' strength and weakness, who wins and who loses can easily be judge." When he stepped out from the prince's quarter had already began to scour his memories on "Zhuge Liang story", now open his mouth and spoken about the twelve elements, he saw that Miao Guang's facial was increasingly solidified and his heart cannot help but secretly glad.

The simple fact was that such military legal system was extremely rare at this period. Rong Tian if indeed had summarized such strong military legal system which regulated and implemented on his soldiers; therefore, his obviously research would be unmatched by anyone. Li Kingdom when take a declaration of war with Xi-Rei would result an unforeseen consequences.

Miao Guang steal a glanced at Feng Ming, fortunately that he had not been toxic to death, if not Xi-Rei had declared war on Li Kingdom for retribution. She thoughtfully for a few second before countered, "Those simple facts are clarity and extremely easy to understand, but it is just petty trivial things. If Duke Ming can demonstrate so I am being in awe of your wisdom, proving that Xi-Rei King was actually that overwhelming, Miao Guang will on behalf of Brother King

signing the treaty, while Rong Tian reigns, Li Kingdom absolute will not send troops to attack Xi-Rei."

If he was to throw a bunch of strategies out will surely shows his ferret's tail* right away.

Feng Ming laughed coldly and arrogant sneered, "Princess just wants to lure me to tell you more about the military strategies. Actually, Rong Tian's military strategies books had secretly hidden somewhere in the palace, I was merely saw them briefly, even if I want to tell you I could not told you everything. Moreover, why would I need Princess to be in awed of me? If Ruo Yan likes to gauge Xi-Rei's strength, so let him take the troops and come here, that should be all right. I can guarantee on the day Ruo Yan lead the troops to Xi-Rei. It would also the day of Li Kingdom downfall."

Those two sentences had said with integrity and full of confidence that Miao Guang's face was ashen.

Lie-er stood paralysed on one side choked slurred inside, he never thought Feng Ming displayed his prestigious education that had made Miao Guang shaken with fears.

Miao Guang does not believe that Feng Ming had not seen all the military strategy manuals, only smiled and remain silence.

"I'm finished; the Princess should make a good resolution." Feng Ming seen the situation had

changed positively then flashed a signal with Lie-er, his head turned upward and step out of the prison cell.

When he was outside of the prison chamber, Feng Ming immediately throw away his facade, eerie howl, turned to smile brightly at Lie-er, "Finally pass the ordeal, now Ruo Yan will not dare to arbitrary attacked Xi-Rei. If we have a few years without worrying about Ruo Yan, Rong Tian can certainly generate a stronger force for Xi-Rei, ample time to prepare to take over the world. Oh, I had nearly rolled over and laughed a few times when we were inside there, to repress was truly miserable, now the abdominal still cramping inside." When he finished started to rubs his belly.

Lie-er frozen for a long time, then opened his mouth said, "Duke Ming, you indeed are fearsome."

"Fearsome?"

"Duke Ming Art of War, indeed unheard of, truly amazing; make people to be fearful with admiration. The Great King has Duke Ming supporting, will definitely conquered the whole world. " Lie-er's face seems thoroughly admired, as he stared at Duke Ming, "Your Grace intellectual will sooner or later will be lead as the source of assassination from other countries, Lie-er will certainly be carefully protected Duke Ming."

The feeling of admiration by someone was truly great.

Feng Ming scratched the ear for a while and said shyly, "Art of War, truthfully is not mine..."

He was only half spoken, suddenly a shape emerges out of the artificial mountain at the back garden approached them, interrupting the conversation between Feng Ming with Lie-er.

"Duke Ming is here, I have been searched forever for Your Grace." The handmaid was Xiang Fen who serves the Dowager Queen, she deftly salutes Feng Ming and mellow voice said, "The Dowager Queen requests Duke Ming for a visit, she said it had been days since she last seen Duke Ming, and would like to speak with Your Grace with a few matters."

Feng Ming blinked hardly understands what had spoken to him.

Although the Dowager Queen and him, were both lived in the royal palace though they rarely meet each other. *'What could the Dowager Queen want to communicate here?'*

Lie-er asked, "What Dowager Queen wishes to see Duke Ming about?"

"Basically there are some delicious teas that tribute, the Dowager Queen said drink alone was not enjoyable and the Great King was burden with country matter to drink so she thought Duke Ming would enjoy morning teas with her."

Feng Ming was still terrified about An Xun death but his heart was extremely compassionate

toward the unhappy marriage of the Dowager Queen. After all, she had done everything for her child; moreover, it was a fake poison. From ancient time, the women in the palace were the most miserable, lonely and alone to endure time-lapse until old age.

He nodded to Xiang Fen, "Okay, I'll go."

"Duke Ming, your servant will go with you."

Xiang Fen was the Dowager Queen close handmaid so absolutely had no respect for Lie-er and glared at him, smiled and said, "The perfume tea of the Dowager Queen are not prepared for you, why are you coming? Duke Ming in the royal palace, why are you afraid that he'll gone missing?"

"

"But ..."

"But what? The relations between Duke Ming and the Great King you also known, His Majesty is Dowager Queen's son, then Duke Ming is..." Xiang Fen upon this part of the speech could not stop laughing since she would have use the words "daughter in law", her eyes glancing at Lie-er before bitten her lip said, "They are talked about family private matters, why are you listen in?"

Feng Ming flushed to the neck, immediately surrender said "I'll go right now. Lie-er, return to the crown prince's quarter first."

Lie-er knew that Dowager Queen would absolutely will not harm Feng Ming because of Rong Tian so he not really worried, nodded quietly and departed.

Feng Ming followed Xiang Fen to the inner palace of the Dowager Queen.

Everywhere within the palace was covered with flower fragrances, as he as soon he set foot into the chamber already choking with smell sweet, though this fragrance given off a special relaxed comfort feelings.

"Greeting, Dowager Queen."

"Duke Ming has arrived?" the Dowager Queen nodded and smiled, called Xiang Fen provides a chair and placed it near her post, pointed to the seat said, "Sit here."

"Yes, thank you, Dowager Queen." Feng Ming obediently sat down.

"Xiang Fen, bring a cup of perfume tea that had tributed to Duke Ming."

"Thank you, Dowager Queen."

'Why is she so enthusiasm today? I still remembered that day when I pretending as her son I did not able to enjoy being treated enthusiasm like this.' Feng Ming's characteristic was a careless

person, felt bizarre for short time before the concern disappeared. He saw in Dowager Queen's hand a pair of needle and curiosity asked, "Dowager Queen handmade clothe?"

"I am getting old, why do I make more clothes?" Since he had asked the Dowager Queen cut the thread and holding the garment up for him to view, "This is the waist strap I've makes for the Great King. I need not have to do it; since I have spare times so I decided to make them, hope to sees him wear it until old age. "

In the speech had revealed motherly feelings, Feng Ming originally was an orphan, upon heard those words immediately moved hence felt more friendly and for a bit closer to the Dowager Queen. He took the belt, which was not complete from the hands of the Dowager Queen, sighed said, "It beautiful, the Dowager Queen is very good with Rong Tian." *'If my mother had alive, she certainly would take care of me at all time and places, worried that I may be harm. May be because of my future path that she would sacrifice others.'* When he thought of that immediately, forgive the Dowager Queen with the one thing that had always haunted him by her action, allowed An Xun stabbed him twice and thrown aside so now he stopped felt offended.

Dowager Queen smiled and said, "It goods that Duke Ming like belt, I had makes you one."

Xiang Fen brought another belt of a different blue colour to Feng Ming.

Feng Ming saw it was cleverly precise made and very beautiful.

"Dowager Queen, this..." In his life never had one person that sewed clothes for him, when he

lived in an orphanage his clothes were old stuff that philanthropist donated. Now lifted the belt on his hand he felt a sense of warm and his eyes started turn red.

"I have suddenly treated Duke Ming like this; Your Grace must be surprised and wonder what the Dowager Queen intended since I behave warmly and enthusiasm." Dowager Queen sincerely spoken, "Duke Ming must know Rong Tian had been threatened me. He wants me to treat Duke Ming similar as him; otherwise he would break our bonds."

"What?" Feng Ming traumatised.

Dowager Queen laughed sadly, "Duke Ming was surprised right? How could Rong Tian treated such manner with his mother who wholeheartedly with him as me. These words, he not only told me one time but also said twice. It was after An Xun death and Duke Ming was in comatose; the one after that was when I discussed with him regard grand marriage."

Feng Ming even more poignant, this time not because of the Dowager Queen but Rong Tian who had always made efforts in commitment even at the quieter level.

Dowager Queen's hand let go the cup of tea, carefully evaluated Feng Ming, sudden uttered a sigh "Duke Ming indeed a beautiful male that rarely seen. My son loved another deeply and much more than his own mother, if I am ruthless enough I would have kill you on this occasion and take away the threat of tomorrow. "

Feng Ming whole body was quivering, immediately scrutiny around whether or not there was danger.

Dowager Queen saw his untainted simple nature and smiled, voiced gentle, "Duke Ming should be at ease, because Rong Tian no matter how I feel, I will not hurt Your Grace. This time I'd requested for your visit was to ask Duke Ming for something."

Eventually they now had reached the main topic. Feng Ming immediate mental focus and open hid mouth said, "What Dowager Queen would like to counsel?"

"I want Duke Ming to suggest to Rong Tian that he need to find a Queen for Xi-Rei."

"A Queen?" Feng Ming despite had early psychological preparation but unavoidable for a moment being frozen. Finally, they had referring to the problem that was inescapable. Feng Ming forced a smile, "This, would it be better if Dowager Queen speak directly to Rong Tian?"

"This only can be spoken by Duke Ming to Rong Tian. No one else have the power, including me." Dowager Queen laughed sorrowful, "The internal argument for this, Duke Ming must be clearly identified."

Feng Ming slowly nodded and sighed for a long time, "It's correct, I do understand."

Dowager Queen holds Feng Ming's palm up, "Duke Ming, I know that you will not depart from the Great King side. After His Majesty has a child, he will not need to continue sexual intercourse with the Queen. In my heart I know, your fate are intertwine with Rong Tian. I'll not lies, the previous King also deeply in love with a man. "

"Rong Tian's Father?"

"In fact the entire older courtiers had known that the person that the King loved was not me, but the old Duke Rong."

Feng Ming shrieked, "The old Duke Rong?"

"That's correct." Dowager Queen forlorn looked outside, subtle as if remember the olden days and slowly said, "In fact years ago when the Previous King had wedded me, it was recommended by old Duke Rong thus the King had nodded in agreement. After I gave birth to Rong Tian, the Great King was not close with me again. This was also the reason that I had felt secure in the midst of country danger and life threatening to place my only son with old Duke Rong, I knew he will absolutely never harm the son of the Great King. It is the same because of Rong Tian I absolutely will not hurt Duke Ming." She had callously refused An Xun loved was not because for the love of the King but for her own son and the loyalty to Royal Family of Xi-Rei.

It was for Xi-Rei that she had done her best efforts for many years and would never allowed the Royal Line of Xi-Rei to be sever off before her.

"I want to ask Duke Ming, Rong Tian is Xi-Rei King, and should he have an heir?"

"Of course."

"To have an heir, should there be a marriage?"

"Yes."

"With the exception of Duke Ming, who else could able to ask Rong Tian for agreement of marriage?"

".... I guess not."

"Therefore, Duke Ming..." The Dowager Queen said word by word slowly, keenly looked at Feng Ming, "Could Duke Ming for Rong Tian's legacy and advises Rong Tian for the grand marriage?"

From his own mouth and asked Rong Tian to marry someone else? Feng Ming's pupils suddenly shrunk.

The whole body turned extremely cold, it was almost like feeling numbs. Only there was a wave crashing screaming in his head. A Grand Wedding would mean pushed Rong Tian into someone else embraced. If there was no marriage then what about the whole life work of Rong Tian?

The gracious expression of the Dowager Queen seems to plead and she once again gently requested, "Duke Ming, could you for Rong Tian's legacy to recommends him to wed?"

Heroes must be record in the history books, people will forever admire him, and he must leave an heir to extend his legacy.

Rong Tian was indeed a true hero.

Feng Ming's heart was cold now become an iron block.

He gently moved the stiff neck, finally sighed, "This matter, plead Dowager Queen for a few days to respond. I ... I want to think a bit."

He put down the teacup, ritual goodbye ceremonial to the Dowager Queen.

The Dowager Queen stared at Feng Ming for a moment and nodded, "Duke Ming should carefully consider the matter, and I'll waiting for Your Grace responses. However, regardless

whether Duke Ming accept this request or not, please do not mentioned this to the Rong Tian. I only want the best for him but he will hate me. Ah, it's difficult to be a mother."

"I will not tell Rong Tian of this conversation." He took the belt that the Dowager Queen had made with her own hands, head suddenly looked up and saw in the eyes of the Dowager Queen who was at higher position and yet to be full of sorrow for her son, worrying about Rong Tian future. He felt overwhelmed disorderly, do not know what rightly to say and was unintentionally hum softly, "*An old mother sewed clothe, for the son to wear on a long journey. Her heart made it precisely, wait for the son quickly to come home. One tenth metre of a mother's heart, repay at least for three years.*" I understand the Dowager Queen intention; it's pitiful for parental love in the world." He took the belt and inserted inside his chest, he turned to Dowager Queen and transient with a strong forceful smile then taken his steps to depart.

Dowager Queen saw Feng Ming's back distantly disappeared; quietly hummed the verses he had spoken, "An old mother sewed clothe, for the son to wear on a long journey. . . "

Xiang Fen strode to the Dowager Queen side, looked at the direction of Feng Ming and in a small voice, "Usually there was nothing special but today, it seems the Great King have good judgment eyes, Duke Ming indeed formidable. Dowager Queen that Duke Ming truly secreted, do you think he will consent? "

"Ultimately there will be someone who suffered unjust secretly." Queen said sadly, "He will definitely agree. Looking at the ending though Duke Ming was simple pure at first glance, but

compared to old Duke Rong at that time he would be more understand and knowledgeable. My eyes are not judged a person wrongly."

"If so, the Dowager Queen was finally lightens up."

"Uhm." Empress smiled slightly, "To have someone like that to support my son, I could finally feel secure now."

Note:

Liu Biu warlord at the end of the Han dynasty and founder of the Han kingdom of Shu (c. 200-263), later the Shu Han dynasty (in the novel the Romance of the Three Kingdoms)

Shows ferret's tail = bluff

Chapter VI

Part I

Feng Ming walked out of the Dowager Queen's inner palace, alone on the way back to the prince's quarter he felt vacillated and a little lost in his mind as his emotion had shaken quietly inside.

"What are you thinking about?"

Suddenly someone patted on his shoulder, which startled Feng Ming, his head turned around to look and was facing a smiling Rong Tian.

The disturbing waves still lingers in his heart was once again stirred strongly as if the wind billows it. He stared silly and daze at Rong Tian who stood proudly there and felt like tears almost poured out.

"Nothing." Feng Ming turned around, looked at the surrounding and said to him, "Why are you not work on the country issues but wander here in this palace's garden?"

"Everything had finished for today, Lie-er told me the Dowager Queen have asked for you, I was afraid that you may encountered some difficulty so I had decide to come here." Rong Tian saw Feng Ming's facade was unsightly and frowning asked, "So, what the Dowager Queen had said with you?"

Feng Ming restrained his emotion, turned to Rong Tian and smiled, "We had chitchat a lot of your wayward childhood stories and she also invited me to taste the perfume tea which tributed."

Rong Tian felt his mind at peace after that and together, shoulder to shoulder with Feng Ming heading back.

"Does perfume tea taste good?"

"Very good."

"I saved you a box, later called Chiu Lian to make teas for you to drink."

"I'll do it tomorrow."

The spring breeze was blowing through; all sorts of colourful flowers racing to blossom inside the garden, many pink and thousands of purple was truly very beautiful sight. Feng Ming stopped, pointed to a solitary tree and said, "Look at this, spring has arrived but all the San Yue Chun are wilting."

"San Yue Chun only was flowering in winter, now that spring has arrived, of course, will perish." Rong Tian revealed his wickedness and evil laughing, smile continue, "No need to be hasten there are many drugs for stimulation inside the palace, it don't have to be San Yue Chun."

Feng Ming looked weirdly at Rong Tian for a while, then afterward whispered, "Do not worry; I have agreed with you, of course, I will keep my words."

Rong Tian delighted as his eyes flashing and clutching Feng Ming's hands into his. He felt excited and intently marched towards the prince's quarter.

Although impatient, Rong Tian had not immediately moved into action.

"The greatest tastes must be processed carefully." He laughed softly into Feng Ming's ear.

He first uses his own hand to feed Feng Ming fully satisfied, and then advised Chiu Lian to prepare a bath.

The two of them face to face naked in the middle of the pool and the hot steams was overcast the whole bathroom like fairyland. Rong Tian gentle scatter water drops onto Feng Ming's body and scrubbing to clean his body. Feng Ming closed his eyes slightly, stood upright inside the pool, silently enjoying being serves and taking care wholeheartedly by the highest supreme person in Xi-Rei.

"Are you comfortable?"

"Yes."

"Feng Ming..."

Feng Ming opened his eyes, "What?"

Rong Tian calmly looked at him and quietly said, "Nothing. I really love you."

"I know." Feng Ming smiled, his smile was blurred under the vaporous which had becomes extraordinarily beautiful, "I also really love you."

"I will never let you leave me." Rong Tian in the end could not take any more suddenly pulled Feng Ming tightly and pressure against his chest and in his baritone said, "Tonight, we certainly will be together."

"All right. We shall certain will be succeeded and despite of getting injure I'll not regret it." Feng Ming had bitten his teeth and nodded in confirmation.

It was easy to talk but once they begin and detected that it is extremely difficult task.

When Rong Tian covered over the top of Feng Ming who had began to tremble slightly. The pair lovers, who loved each other should have find lovemaking extremely comfortable at easy, but perhaps the broken body of Feng Ming had remembered of those days when it had received the pains by Rong Tian abuses had automatically instantly give off the warning?

"Afraid?" Rong Tian tilted his head upward and licked his ear softly.

"... No."

"So ... to continue?"

"Uhm."

Rong Tian slowly stroked on the skin of his thighs, evil laughed, "The cause and effect."

Feng Ming was make moaning sound, uncontrolled turn around and punched him.

"Ha ha, still very strong." Rong Tian only received one hit but he not troubled by it.

"Shut up."

Rong Tian becomes silent as his attentive progress down below. Feng Ming turned away as he looked toward the window and ignored what Rong Tian was doing, suddenly saw a hand passed over him and took a small jade bottle in front of the bed, particularly scared that his heart almost pop out.

Behind his body, he felt a cold from the falling droplet of liquids.

Feng Ming become a little fidgety, Rong Tian pressed his shoulders down, said quietly, "This is medicine lubrication, no need to fear." The finger like bees flight around up and down in front of the entrance, which quickly applied the lubrication and wiped to spread over the area.

"Of course I know what it is." Feng Ming daring softly as he growled then cracked his eyes opened suddenly turned and bitterly cried "Ah...Pain..."

Rong Tian heartbreaking patted gently and slowly pushed inside, "It hurt a little."

'It was not just a little but very painful!' Feng Ming was bitten his teeth, eyes closed and endured. The numb feeling keep occurs had displayed clearly on his face, beside his ears the sound of Rong Tian heavy breathing.

"It's too tight." Rong Tian was also extremely frustrating; little by little of being careful had driven him crazy.

Feng Ming at the bottom could not bear the uncomfortable feeling, he hate that it was not to be hurried and ended, used all his strength suddenly cried out, "Hurry up, stop dawdle like that, I could not tolerate it any longer."

"You're rather that I go faster?" Rong Tian surprised, if he had known earlier he would not be work so hard which fortunately that he also at his limited.

"Hurry up!" Feng Ming eyes tightly closed tilted his neck, "Do not be slow like that, that really unpleasant."

This was indeed the desire of Rong Tian's heart so his thunderous voice instantly responded, "So I'll be faster." shifted his arousal and gangbuster into the other body.

The sharply pain of being broken inside mixed with the hissing sound. The rigid body of Feng Ming suddenly spring upward in shock.

"Do not fear, you will not be hurt soon." Rong Tian beautiful voice filled the room.

The continuous intense friction was continue in the internal body, Feng Ming eyes grew more and become larger, almost like the corner of the eyes going to crack open, finally shouted, "Do not! Ah... Ah...." then he once again struggled and crying.

Unfortunately even if he had called "Stop" would have been too late, Rong Tian beyond his control to stop, sweaty forehead continuously diving at the back, still whispered comforting

words, "Very soon it will not hurt." His waist was pulled higher and the penetration becomes deeper.

Chiu Lian's group pressed against the door eavesdropping, their faces were all flushed red like persimmons.

A terrible scream of Feng Ming echoed and the four of them were startled with shock.

Chiu Lian's eyes widened, patting the chest said, "Duke Ming was pitiful."

"Yeah, when Duke Ming was a prince, every time... also wounded."

"Is he going to be very seriously injured?" Chiu Xing was still worried as she stared into the great gate that remains closed, "The Great King previously did not like the Prince, of course, thus have not appreciated, but now..."

Lie-er put her finger to her mouth, whispered, "Hush, listen."

They were silent at once.

The bitter cry had begun to deteriorate gradually, from being a cry of hurt too much to a little

bit of a whimpered sounds heard, slowly infiltrate into the atmosphere. The sounds was evoking from depths of lust that restrain in the heart, which had always been aroused deep inside.

". . . ah . . . ah. . . ah...Um. . . "

They did not know whatever Rong Tian had done inside the room that have made Feng Ming suddenly let out a high-pitched purring like a small kitten, which caused the four people at the door simultaneously traumatised.

Chiu Lian glanced at Chiu Xing, lower voice asked, "Let prepare for the bath?"

Chiu Yue shook her head, "I should prepare the drugs potion for injury first."

"Those drugs for healing the Great King probably have already prepared, and certainly will be applying them by His Majesty. We just need to prepare a bath."

"You're really naive, even after listened to this but could not foretell? It is too soon." Lie-er snorted, "The Great King just done his first round, he had waited for a long time, why would he ended it so soon? Preparing for the bath should be waiting until tomorrow morning..."

During his speech of his own experience, the main gate creak and the door was open.

Rong Tian held Feng Ming who was crumbling and fatigue in his arms, his muscular body that large and high stood inside the room. Feng Ming's face was abnormal pink colour, illustrated that he had clearly made excessive in movement, wrapped in a silk blanket, though he not asleep, but was little vacantly.

"Great King. . ."

"Great King."

The four people right away rushed down the floor and on their knees.

Rong Tian gently said, "Prepare for the bath."

"Yes."

Chiu Xing saw Rong Tian carried Feng Ming toward the bathroom as she pulled Lie-er's sleeve though embarrassed said to him, "At least until tomorrow morning? What a liar."

Lie-er's aggression snared at Chiu Xing, "You heard Duke Ming sounds, I do not believe for the Great King once would be ..."

"Of course once for the Great King would not be enough, but he would never browbeat Duke Ming?" Chiu Yue stealthily turned around, snorted at Lie-er, "When talking about emotion, we female are way much better."

The two pulling faces at each other before rushed after Rong Tian and Feng Ming to serve them.

Feng Ming had tolerated a night of pain and passion. The early next morning, he lays on the bed, looked at Rong Tian who was wild frantic worries about him and constantly checked over the wounds, as well for pulses, it was then he remembered the conversation with the Dowager Queen yesterday.

Never felt his life was so bitter.

"Sleep a little." Rong Tian leaning against the bed as he lowers his eyes to look down at him, "The whole night your eyes had opened widen like that, should take a nap now. Are you still in pain? "

The entrance of wounds after applied the healing medicine was no longer feel painful, the pain that felt like ripped off as if never have happened only leaving a little numb feeling.

Feng Ming glanced and saw the royal costume on Rong Tian, "Are you go to Court Hall?"

"Shall I accompany you?"

"No need." Feng Ming shook his head, "After the assembly then come back to me."

"That is natural."

"I want you to agree with me something."

"What?"

"You have to promise in advance." Feng Ming silly looked deep into Rong Tian, "The specific issue will have to wait until you come back."

Rong Tian careful searching and evaluation Feng Ming for a second, smirked at the corner of the mouth softly and smiling on his fine handsome face, "Feng Ming, the first time was also like this, although I still unfamiliar with this demand."

"You have not accepted the agreement with me."

"Okay, I'll agree whatever request you asked me."

"That good, you should go the Court Hall. I'll wait for your return." Feng Ming satisfies nodded.

Rong Tian stood and his tall body seems dazzling before his eyes.

No matter whoever becomes the queen, will love this man. Therefore, once she loved him would then use all sort of trick to steal he away. Until then, there will be no less in impending bloody conflict...

Rong Tian slightly bent and touched Feng Ming's nose with his, whispered into his ear, "I will come back very quickly." Then he turned and walked out the main gate.

"Rong Tian" Feng Ming watched the shadow leaved but suddenly called out in shock.

"What?" Rong Tian immediately turned around.

Feng Ming pensive for a moment, "A Great King's responsibility must leave behind an heir?"

"Of course, that is most important responsibilities." Rong Tian frown, "What do you want to say?"

Feng Ming turned away; his eyes stared at the empty table, "I'll wait and continued when you're back."



Chapter VI

Part II

Rong Tian slightly frowned and almost wants to ask but turned away. When he outside the door, he was facing Chiu Lian who on the way carrying the tea inside.

"Great King." Chiu Lian ritual ceremonial greets.

"Feng Ming seems to be strange today, you must careful serving him."

"Yes, your servants understood."

Feng Ming was dillydallying as he laying on bed for nearly an hour. It turns out that people who carefree when stresses, whatever happiness and pleasures they have inside would be down and disappeared.

Although, it seems that human nature is easier feel negative than positive emotions.

'Today I have to give the answer to the Dowager Queen, should I agree or disagree with this?

Whether the response was unacceptable, it was still difficult to ensure that tomorrow someone

else would not suggest for Rong Tian's marriage. Moreover, whether if I agreed, would still be subject to the approval of Rong Tian? As for myself, how could I willing to accept this fate?'

Chiu Yue's group stood aside and wait on him was murmuring softly to each other.

"Duke Ming facial was not healthy."

"The entrance wounds still hurt?"

"I do not see that." Chiu Lian shook her head, wrinkled her nose, "Duke Ming had began behave peculiar like this since yesterday."

"Yes, he even said he will not go out and travelling again."

Chiu Yue who a prankster was pretending cried. "We will not be able to go outside to play again..."

"Chiu Lian." Feng Ming opened his mouth suddenly.

The three maidservants hastily silent no longer whispered to each other. Chiu Lian had stridden forward to the front to investigates, "Duke Ming, what counsel do you want to give?"

Feng Ming facial nonchalance said, "Preparing clothes, I want to go out."

Chiu Yue asked, "Duke Ming body is not healthy, why you want to go out now?"

"Yes, if you're leaving the palace, your servant recommended for Lie-er to see the Great King ask for permission before depart."

"No not leaving the palace." Feng Ming sighed for a while but determined to go, "I want to see the Dowager Queen."

"Dowager Queen?" Chiu Lian's group glanced at each other weirdly.

"Do not hesitate and hindrance quickly helps me to change clothes."

"Yes."

When the body stirred the entrance wounds immediately felt a bit vicious throbbing pain from last night.

Feng Ming changed to the new garments, which Rong Tian had arranged it made, leaving the

prince's quarter by himself. Lie-er rushed to chase after him and wanted to follow but he also insistence refused.

When he walked through the back garden and stopped shortly before San Yue Chun that had wilted. He remembered a particular memory of Rong Tian on that day wickedly telling him the background for the name San Yue Chun, yet at this moment the image was still clearly vividly before him. The impermanent natures are always changing, since from beginning to the end, constants storms and tornado occurred all the times. He alone had travelled from Xi-Rei to Fan Jia, from a fake prince to give a proper title of Duke Ming.

Everything happened for a few short months, now because of Xi-Rei King's marriage that his heart was preoccupied and miserable.

Feng Ming smiled sorrowful and shook his head, leaving the plant San Yue Chun, strode directly to the inner palace of Dowager Queen.

Dowager Queen had waited earlier for him and Xiang Fen brought a chair for Feng Ming then gave him a cup of perfume tea.

Feng Ming sat down, quietly sipping the tea, take a long time before began to speak, "Dowager Queen's waiting for my response, must be very impatient."

"Duke Ming just agreed to my request I do not mind wait for a bit."

"In fact before coming here I had walking through the back garden and saw the dust wilted plant of San Yue Chun. Now when all the flowers bloom, it happens to wither. What a shame."

Dowager Queen somewhat pensive smiled said, "San Yue Chun stills the brightest flowers during the winter. Whatever it is once achieved is okay. If forever want to get the Great King's heart, is not easy, Duke Ming is a smart man, should understood this explicit argument."

"Dowager Queen said correctly." Feng Ming give up tea, his handsome face appeared to relax as if he had shaken off everything, tapping on the marble table and sighed said, "*The happy days are the shortest period of time, flower sweetly perfume for second and fragrance never long-lasting*". Ha ha, good times never last. In the world nothing can be the best of both worlds, Dowager Queen is wise."

Dowager Queen looked bizarre at the gestures of Feng Ming, not help but having to exchange glances with Xiang Fen.

Feng Ming happy smile that smile for a while, then asked the Dowager Queen, "Do Dowager Queen know why Feng Ming are greatly in high spirits?"

Dowager Queen shook her head slowly.

Xiang Fen had enjoyed being favoured by the Dowager Queen, dared to interject in the conversation, and cautiously asked, "Duke Ming had thought how to reply thus inspired with high spirit."

"That's correct." Feng Ming nodded, "I have decided what I should do now."

Dowager Queen asked, "Then the answer of Duke Ming is..."

"My answer is, let the Dowager Queen to decide."

Dowager Queen stunned, "Let me make the final decisions?"

"Yes, Dowager Queen is Rong Tian mother, on this earth the mother will not be for own selfishness but only thinking for her child benefits. Therefore, only the Dowager Queen because of Rong Tian was the best one made the decision." Feng Ming became serious countenance and the voice sternly continued, "However before the Dowager Queen make decide what to do, plead to listen what Feng Ming have to said."

"Duke Ming please explains."

"Dowager Queen knows that the eleven countries are currently in dispute and at wars?"

"I know."

"Dowager Queen knows that Rong Tian have a great ambition, hopefully that one day he could conquered the world, become a single man in this world."

"I know."

"Dowager Queen known to conquer the world, there is a need for art of war strategies, there is a need for new develop weapons, also to have great generals and good soldiers?"

"I know."

Feng Ming suddenly stood up, revealed an arrogant side, and laughed said "Feng Ming does know about art of strategies that no one at this current period able to match, so do the Dowager Queen believe this?"

Queen nodded, "Duke Ming's military strategies able to shaken up Li Kingdom Princess, of course must be formidable."

"Feng Ming also knows how to make new develop weapons, also how to get great generals and good soldiers, do Dowager Queen believe this?"

"The Great King now established throughout Xi-Rei to search for talents people, I heard this was the proposal of Duke Ming. The terraced fields and the water wheels, also by Duke Ming who had think of it." Queen seriously said, "Duke Ming's aptitude so high thus Your Grace stills the best person who counsels the Great King for marriage."

Feng Ming shook his head said, "Dowager Queen after all had said there nowhere in the world that could be possible for mutual integrity. How I am able to support Rong Tian conquered the world, the first ruler of all since ancient time. The Queen was able to give Rong Tian an heir, his legacy of the royal line for Xi-Rei. Feng Ming and the Queen at both sides, both are good, but as the Dowager Queen, nothing in the world will be mutual integrity thus this could not achieved. Plead the Dowager Queen to decide." When he finished his speech, stoops and deeply bowed with the Dowager Queen.

Dowager Queen started in horror, "Duke Ming means..."

"The day when a new Queen has decided, also is the Feng Ming will be gone. Do Dowager Queen's wishes for Rong Tian to be a legendary ruler of all, eternal praise; or wish for the line of Xi-Rei King continued to the next? The two sides only were able to choose one, plead Dowager Queen to make a decision."

"This..." Dowager Queen revealed shock, stretch her hand said, "Even if there is a new Queen, Duke Ming does not need to leave."

"Ha ha, what does Dowager Queen see Feng Ming as? Feng Ming rather has a crushed pearl, than get a good roof." He laughed a few sound before said solemnly like a nail screw into a column, "If the Dowager Queen decision for Rong Tian to have a Queen, I will immediately go see Rong Tian and request for him to accept, then disappeared. Dowager Queen should not be worry; I absolutely will not disclose what had been with the Dowager Queen, which would cause a discord between a mother and son. Everything will be done because I had volunteers to make this commitment."

"Duke Ming...Duke Ming really intimidate other." Dowager Queen's heart was troubled, snorted and turned away.

Feng Ming tilted his head up, "How Feng Ming could force the Dowager Queen? Just want to know yours feeling inside, the ambition of Rong Tian for thousand of generations, or legacy

successor which is more important things. Dowager Queen is a great female, which of course would wish continues for blood successor. The people are born into this world, if only live mediocre and without record the name into history, not being glorious and become legendary for his life time work, to have successors what was good news about that? Oh, if it was so, Feng Ming immediately went to Rong Tian and recommended him for marriage. Dowager Queen, please excuse my leaving, when everything had done, Feng Ming immediately will be gone, not come to say goodbye." He turned suddenly and carefree took steps toward the main door.

Dowager Queen hastily called, "Duke Ming stopped."

Feng Ming stops but did not turn around just gently asked, "What else Dowager Queen wish to request, have I not obey your wishes? Everything is arranged by the Dowager Queen, the Dowager Queen still is not complacent happy?"

Dowager Queen was engraved and contemplation for a second, bitten her teeth and said nothing.

The Hall immersed into a tense atmosphere with stillness expeditiously for an answer.

Finally, the Dowager Queen sighed.

"My son judgements are better than anyone; Duke Ming was formidable, far exceeding than my

expectation." Dowager Queen considers for a long time, eyes flashed suddenly determined, "Okay, the Queen and Duke Ming, I would choose Duke Ming."

Feng Ming suddenly turned around, delighted amazement asked, "Really, Dowager Queen?"

Dowager Queen once again revealed majestic, smiled and said calmly, "Who would not want for their beloved child to be eternal praise, eternal admiration in the world? Rong Tian since young had always been ambitious, not to be achieve glorious for a life time, he certain will not forgive this Dowager Queen."

"So regard to Xi-Rei successors..."

"Xi-Rei royal family does not only just Rong Tian, this problem I will automatically be dealing with." Dowager Queen was consistent and sighed said, "Unfortunately, that not by my own grandchildren inherit the legacy."

Feng Ming showed gorgeous smiling face; suddenly prostrate kneel reverently and clasped his hands in front of the Dowager Queen, "Feng Ming has one thing to request."

"Duke Ming goes ahead."

"If the Dowager Queen had decided on Feng Ming, then one day in the future when one of the officials mentions regard of Rong Tian marriage..."

"I had decided, it not their right to persist. If anyone proposed, I will stand to prevent this."

Feng Ming delighted, high voice said, "Thank you Dowager Queen for yours grants on this agreement." He made an exception for the first time, self-initiate, kowtow respectfully for once.

Queen laughed and laughed, shaking her head said, "It seems my judgement of you is wrong. Duke Ming, Duke Ming, I am of today are greatly regards for you. The Great King please comes here."

When her word had finished, Rong Tian looked very please and happily stepped out from behind the curtain.

Feng Ming temporary paralysed, widen his eyes looked amazing at him.

Rong Tian said, "I'd guessed that the Dowager Queen talked to you about grand marriage. I'd arrived here early to pay respect for her, and made the bet, that you certainly will not agree, but even ensured she will not be proposed again for marriage. However, I never thought you have

that capacity even made the Dowager Queen agreed to stand up for you in the future to prevent any official appeals because our relationship. Feng Ming, Feng Ming, how could I'm not in love with you?" He laughed and took Feng Ming pulled him closer to the chest as he forcibly kissed him.

Dowager Queen on one side slowly said, "The Great King made agreement with me. If Duke Ming accepts then everything will be arrange by me. It seems the Great King was the one, who truly understood Duke Ming deeply. "

"This is expected." Rong Tian wickedly laughed, "Feng Ming would never allow another to be close to me? I of course am handsome and extraordinaire, my hands hold a kingdom, a great man that is hard to be found on Earth, now to give away and tomorrow insist to return will be much too difficult."

The words like a stabbing on what Feng Ming had worries, thus result Rong Tian immediately took one of his unseen punched.

The two said farewell to the Dowager Queen, joyful happily returned to the prince's quarter.

"Today you seeing the Dowager Queen, why not tell me? Even dared to lies to me that you're gone to the Court Hall."

"I am guessing what had happened so had come to the Dowager Queen to survey the situation for once." Rong Tian retorted, "You also discussed with the Dowager Queen, why had you not told me?"

"Hn, based on what that I need to report everything to you? I also are the first Xi-Rei Duke Ming, I do have thing need to be done in rational of my own way."

Chiu Lian slapping the chest said, "Thanks heaven, Duke Ming finally restored."

"That's right; the current posture still was the most comfortable."

Chiu Yue tilted her heads, looked around and said, "Does that mean we could frequently go outside and sightseeing right?"

Inside the prince's quarter filled with laughter again.

There only a slight different change from then on, that every night there were sounds of purring make as the essence of the body had echoes outside of prince's quarter. Of course sometimes there random noises of vociferous argument from below ---

"No, this time is my turn."

"No, I am the Great King, you shall obey me."

"You have already agreed to accept my request; my request is to for me to top."

"The request is ridiculous; it is not worth for the King to concern."

"Protest! I resist. .ah...ah. . . Do not . . . immoral. . . "

. . .

Chiu Lian yawned at the door asked, "How long will we wait for tonight?"

"We wait till dawn." Lie-er answered.

"We'll go to sleep first, and then get up to prepare for the bath should be okay." Chiu Yue also yawned.

Chiu Lian shook her head said, "I'll wait to serve at any time, avoiding that when the Great King need someone but no one was there. You all go to sleep first."

Chiu Xing rubbed her eyes, "Okay. The Great King has abundant energy, yet Duke Ming able to bear it? "

"Who asked Chiu Lian everyday cooking all the healthy food for Duke Ming to eat?"

"Who, it was the Great King who asked me to cook, as well for the Great King food."

"Okay, if you do not sleep, so I'll go to sleep." Lie-er shook his head.

"So, Chiu Lian will be the guard then."

The other three heartless as they slip away across the prince palace quarter to their room.

Chiu Lian yawn and sat on the stairway continue to wait.

Chapter VII

Part I

The issue with exchanging hostage with Li Kingdom had promptly done, Miao Guang before departed gazing at Feng Ming from the distance for one more time, in the eyes implied something profound blurred. Xi-Rei envoy struggled along the road and a month later as expected they have brought Rong Hu back.

Rong Hu came back; the most joyful person was none other than Lie-er, after received the notice report, since the early dawn had gallops the horse to wait at the front gate and watched over the distance horizontal.

It was very hard lookout until the Xi-Rei flag was visible from the distance that is when Lie-er able to whip the horse forward to meet the group over the road.

"Elder Brother!"

"Lie-er?" Rong Hu also rode on a horse, happily surprised and confused said, "Why you are not in the royal palace but ran here to the gate?"

"I knew that you will return today, requested the Great King for a day off. Had Li King made it difficult for you?" He reined the horse around in the circle to examine Rong Hu carefully.

Rong Hu shook his head, "It was only small punishments. Li King's wants used me for exchange of his precious sister, so had not used harsh torture. Otherwise... if it not death then a lifelong of disability. "

"It was fortune Duke Ming had persuaded the Great King. Come on, we have to go to the palace to see the Great King and Duke Ming. "

"All right. Let me changed clothes and will go right away. "

Those two people are still teenager about seventeen and eighteen, since Rong Tian was not there; their childishness was visible, leaving the envoy team that travelled slowly from behind, and rushed toward the city.

Feng Ming saw Rong Hu was in one piece and extremely exciting. He asked Chiu Lian's group to prepare some good food for reception of Rong Hu. Rong Hu and Lie-er drank a few cup of alcohol, when they recalled Feng Ming had recommended Rong Tian agreement for the exchange, was overwhelmed and the eyes were red.

The people inside the prince's quarter was in commotion for the whole morning until Rong Tian back from the assembly and called Rong Hu immediately to secret basement for carefully inquiries.

"Why did you get arrested?"

"Rong Hu had received the plan that tricks Miao Guang Princess which Your Majesty have prepared, instead of depart to the eccentric man residence but returned back Ly capital for news. After discovered that Ruo Yan was secretly with soldiers leaving the city and seemed to aim in direction of Xi-Rei, your servant had instantly sent a message for the Great King." Rong Hu breathed, "The spy that delivered the message to Your Majesty upon returned to your servant was unfortunately had captured thus released the information and my location being exposed."

Rong Tian nodded said, "I'd guessed that you was inadvertent disclosed your location, turns out it was the spy. Therefore, it was not your fault."

Rong Hu facial seems ashamed, lowers his head replied, "However, for my sake that the Great King have let Miao Guang Princess go..."

"Miao Guang still is just a Princess not very important, how could she compete with the best subordinate of mine?" Rong Tian gesture with his hand that he does not want to repeat this topic

again, immediately muses for a second, "After Ruo Yan caught you, had he ever done the interrogation himself?"

"Ruo Yan after being ambushed by the Great King and struggled return to Li Kingdom which he then found out that your servant got caught by his soldiers. He had questioned your servant for four times, but perhaps because he wanted your servant as an exchange hostage, hence had not used harsh tortures. "

"If he had caught you sooner, the ambush in Xi-Rei will immediately be disclosed, and then it would have been he who had ambushed us." Rong Tian snorted coldly and in the eyes displayed loathsome, again asked, "What does Ruo Yan asked?"

"Asked about where the border inspection stations in Xi-Rei, the generals' trends in military court, how Xia Guan had died, along with those the Great King were close to and talented."

"You obviously know how to answer those questions."

"Yes, your servant had circles the topic, chatter aimlessly. Ruo Yan also seems to know your servant was chatters, but refrained and tolerated from the use of harsh torture."

Rong Tian mildly glance at him, sighed and said, "I know, Ruo Yan sinister ruthless, his misdemeanour must also difficult to bear. You have suffered much already."

Rong Hu eyes were moist, knees collapsed, "For Xi-Rei, Rong Hu had suffered was worth it."

"Okay, you also tired. First, take two days rest, after that then come to the palace and see me. After this, Lie-er and you will be in charge of protecting Feng Ming."

"Yes." Rong Hu stood up to go, suddenly remembered something, immediately turned around and said, "Great King, there is still one more thing that your servant felt so surreal."

"What?"

"Ruo Yan questioned your servant for four times, all things of the Great King, whether big or small was meticulously asked by him. Nevertheless, on issues of Duke Ming he did not mentioned a word. "

Rong Tian bushy eyebrows rose up quietly, thinking for a moment, and then slowly said, "I know, you should go home first."

"Yes."

Rong Hu leaved the secret basement and only Rong Tian stood alone stared at the picture on the wall.

It was not a peaceful world, at least one more person, had lusted for Feng Ming's beauty, as if a tiger ogled at it prey...Ruo Yan.

The happy time always passed quickly.

The prince's quarter was completed filled catchphrases, it was welcome back the beautiful June, and this was his first autumn, which harvest field season of Xi-Rei.

Feng Ming recently occurrences of the past few months had become mature and understood many things, mounting truly to his position of Duke Ming.

He was self disciplines some of his habits, every day he had tried leaving the bed at the same time with Rong Tian, practice riding horse for half an hour then followed half an hour of sword training. After that returned to his quarter for breakfast, then he went to visit scholars and learns the issues that related to the basic knowledge of Xi-Rei and royalty, and then returned to have

lunch with Rong Tian instead of go outside to plays. He often at the prince's quarter recording all the modern methods for military strategies that he thought would be useful to Rong Tian.

Chiu Lian's group was initial laughed that it was impossible for orderly pile of resolution to be done and about eighth out tenth will not be come to pass. Feng Ming nevertheless had really determined except for one thing he could not able to wake up at the same time as Rong Tian, since he had been up at night because of Rong Tian bottomless greed. Everything else was achieves which cause the group eyes widened and jaw drops.

Rong Tian was very surprised and unbelievable at the art of war strategies that Feng Ming had recorded for him.

His thanking of Feng Ming, of course, showed the gratitude in the bed of the prince's quarter.

"Duke Ming had returned for today, what did you learnt from Hop Duong professor?"

Feng Ming hurried through the door, sipping a gulp of hot tea Chiu Xing brought to him, "It seems that Xi-Rei have many magical herbals. I'd initially thought the herbs were only grown in Li Kingdom. Oh, if I knew more about oriented medicine, which could help to develop and expand in Xi-Rei, would surely made Li King Ruo Yan angry and die of coughing up blood."

"Oriented medicine?"

"You'll not understand." Feng Ming grieved, "In fact, it had a long history, had lost many treatments that are rare discoveries."

During his emotional tirade, Rong Tian also came back after the conclusion of politic discussions, smiling face said, "This year wheat harvest are surplus, all thanks to the rice terraces that the you had thought. After lunch, we should go outside to see a harvest for a little while."

Feng Ming leaped "That good, I started to be very bored here."

"I guessed that you're bored already." Rong Tian forward lowers his head and examines Feng Ming who was inciting excitement, laughed, "You had been work very hard on good behaviour for the few months which considered rare."

"Hn, you dared to ridicule Duke Ming." Feng Ming glared at him.

Chiu Xing clapped laughed, turned back to Chiu Yue whispered, "Ah, usually when you heard leaving the palace to play was very noisy and nonstop, why are you quiet today?"

"Hn, I was giving thanks to God. Finally, He had listened to my prayers, which made Duke Ming thinking of go outside for excursion. If this continues again, Duke Ming not sad, I would be bored. "

"Ha ha ha ..." Lie-er and Chiu Lian behind them was listen on the conversation and laugh simultaneously.

Rong Tian wave his hand said, "All of you go to make preparation, after finished with lunch we will be starting to leave immediately. I have advised the guards to wait outside the palace."

"Yes!" They were loudly responses; happily go prepared for the picnic. When the party walked out the palace gate, immediately heard whinny sound rang loudly.

'Hooping sound'

The sound of rolling carriage and horse gollops created billowing dusts storm before them.

The beloved horse of Rong Tian's White Cloud flew quickly before them, and momentum suddenly braking in front of everyone. The guards that took White Cloud out was all frightened

by the horse, trying to runaway to avoid being hit which caused much highlight to it imperial nature among the herds.

"White Cloud" Feng Ming ecstatic screamed.

His usual practice horseback riding was another horse inside the palace, only when he was going out with Rong Tian then he rode White Cloud. It had been a few months since he stepped out the door, of course, also the same amount of time that had not seen this arrogant old friend.

White Cloud lowers his head, licked Feng Ming hands.

Rong Tian walked to Feng Ming side, smiled and said, "You recently did not go out, White Cloud had been missing you. Today I'll ride another horse and give White Cloud for your own possession."

"Really?" Feng Ming bright eyes flashed.

"From this day onward, White Cloud is yours. It had been since young age been take care by my own hand, in the future you should treat it a little better. "

Feng Ming seems unbelievable what he had heard, his eyes dart back and forth at Rong Tian and White Cloud, and sceptics said, "Do not deceive me."

"A King words never taken back, had ever I trick you before?" Rong Tian said seriously.

'Never deceive me? This issue must be mull over again.'

Feng Ming's heart still thinking over those words, but understand that Rong Tian really had given White Cloud to him, not able to control his happiness, stretched upward and kisses Rong Tian, then turned around and jumped on horses, and laughed, "Now White Cloud is truly mine. Haha, let us start and go to survey the terraces fields!" He was no longer stupid as early days, unfamiliar in riding on White Cloud, lately he had grown taller, sitting on the back of a large stallion, proudly showing off unrivalled heroism sight. Rong Tian felt bittersweet, a person like this, soon surely would be not avoid of his reputation to spread, then not just Ruo Yan who would deliberately want to take him away.

White Cloud seems to know Feng Ming was his new master, determined to show his authority in front of him for once, before Feng Ming have whip him had already whine and tossing four hooves, gollops outside the city.

He had been training hard for months so horsemanship was much better, Rong Tian was not

afraid that he would fall off the horse, sat on the stallion the guard brought to him, followed relaxing at ease from behind.

Chiu Lian's group had always stood aside watched the scene and smiled, seeing the other two were on the horses and launched away, started to discuss, "Should we be riding horse or sitting inside the carriage?"

Chiu Yue noisily exclaimed, "Of course, horseback riding, and there is no meaning if sitting on the carriage?"

"However, yesterday said Duke Ming it will be a pleasure outing, told us to bring lunch. How could we hold the food basket and horseback riding?"

"The food basket should just put on the carriage, since Duke Ming and the Great King are together we will not need to be on their heels, we take this opportunity for horseback riding to go another place for while." Chiu Xing proposed her intention that coincided with the calculation of Chiu Yue.

"The food of the Great King and Duke Ming must not leave from our sights, this is not a joke, and we still must appoint someone to oversee them." Chiu Lian thought a moment, eyes suddenly plopped onto the Lie-er, giggled laughs, "Everyday it was us girls who prepare food and stuff, today must be Lie-er turn."

"Ah! You three stealthily off to go horseback riding and force me to sitting alone in the carriage to watch over the food. "

"Lie-er is the best, vigilant and intelligent person, how could you not able to oversee the food basket?" Chiu Yue did not bother to reflect further, instantly dropped the heavy baskets of foods into the hands of Lie-er, flirtatious smile and flattered him.

"That is very good idea, we should climb up the horses now. Lie-er be good man and consent, Okay." Chiu Xing applauded.

Chiu Lian laughed and climb on the horse, when she sitting on horseback had advised him, "Lie-er, you'll go on the carriage which take you outside of the city. The place, which Duke Ming will be stops for picnic already arranged and surround by guards. Today we have to go out to play; you have to endure a little. "

Chiu Yue was most impatient person as she makes face with the Lie-er before whips the horse and was the first of them leaving the city.

Immediately, the three brats had disappeared without traces.

"You all better remember the time to return or no one there to serve Feng Ming during meal!"

Lie-er behind called out loud, cried and laughed as he took the food baskets and climbed on the carriage "Have to go to the picnic area and arranged it all."

Chapter VII

Part II

Feng Ming led the way, followed by Rong Tian, then followed by heavy armoured palace guards with the Xi-Rei's ruler flag. The line of troop behind Feng Ming so who dared not to give way and avoid his path? The scene was like when a King takes his Consort out excursion on the streets. It was immediately caused a great deal of spectators gathered aside of the roads. Feng Ming sight appearances was prestigious, gollops along the way smoothly and arrived at the main gate without hindrance. He reined White Cloud to stop and waiting there for Rong Tian to catch up, who followed closely from behind. He only stopped at the main gate for a bit but the crowd had become larger as they whispered, "Which family was this young master come from?"

Feng Ming rarely had been out of the palace and neither attended those few assemblies between officials and the commoners; of course, the civilians would not recognise him. In a second, Rong

Tian caught up and behind him was the flying flag of the King. Since it was the Xi-Rei King's flag thus well known to everyone so the folks were knelt straightaway on the ground, and loudly shouted, "Great King!"

Thousands of commoners seem unanimously, ear-splitting, kowtows, which made Feng Ming staggered and stupor speechless, and then there was a simultaneously shouted like's thunder that startled Feng Ming which caused him to jump.

'Rong Tian had only ascended on the throne for a few months and has become this popular with the people?'

Rong Tian had long been accustomed to such a grand scene, saw people kneeling at the foot and displayed devotion of worships felt overflowed with pride and laughed, "This year harvest season is a surplus, Xi-Rei no longer need to borrow the neighbours' food to go through the winter. I, the King have decided, three days later there will be a national party for congratulations this year harvest, so the citizens everywhere in Xi-Rei could be a joyful and happy with this good news. "

The cheerful sounds erupted resounding.

"Long live the King!"

"Long live the King!"

The King's flag was flowing to meet the wind as it carried in the middle of the shock acclamation; the embroidered dragon on the surface was sparkling as its reflection from the June's sun. Feng Ming reined the horse at one side and watched over Rong Tian who more impetus than any other, his heart was swells.

Rong Tian gestured his hand gently, which stopped the cheering from the people, in his high voice, "The harvest was a surplus, all thanks to the rice terraces and the water wheel that formed. Do you know who proposed the water wheels and terraces fields? "

The people from beneath rushing loudly replied, "Duke Ming!"

"It was Duke Ming!"

Rong Tian turned his head; smiling glances at Feng Ming, said calmly "Show the flag."

The guards instantly were active from behind.

A very tall guard hold a long staff in his hand, which had carefully wrapped around; brought the horse to run closer to Feng Ming, and quickly removed a fabric covered from the outside out.

Immediately, a flag which incredibly wide had been unfurled which start to flying behind Feng Ming.

The surface embroidered of an image a phoenix spread it wings to flying around and the bottom printed a large word - Ming.

People suddenly understood as it turned out the handsome male that appeared today were Duke Ming, who had always hidden by the Great King inside the palace.

"Duke Ming!"

"It is Duke Ming!"

Everyone roared loudly; thousands were excited kowtows in worship before him. It was easily understood for the hard life of common folks, foods always had been the number one problem, Feng Ming proposed for terraced field and water wheels, which had enriched the harvest and

allowed food to be abundance, of course made the civilians honestly treasured and supportive of him.

It was the first experience for Feng Ming, he never had dream or imagine that he had thousands of people that adores and admiration of him, sitting on horseback, his eyes enclosed everything within the range sight, emotional that his arms and legs were numbs and drowsiness.

Rong Tian pulled his horse beside him and whispered, "A dragon and a phoenix, you and I will share this kingdom."

"Why didn't you tell us before, this flag..."

"Did you not say last time that I'm a man that has no humour, not romantic or something? Ah, your modern words are too much; I could only able to satisfy you a little."

Feng Ming stared at him intensely and bowled over.

Rong Tian stared at Feng Ming, his voice quiet with menace, "Feng Ming, if you are going to cry, I will not accompany you to the terraces field today."

"Hn, do not think that I'm moved and crying." Feng Ming turned, pulling the reins as he patted the top of White Cloud, "White Cloud, it is time to go. I want you to run faster than the wind! "

White Cloud whines, half rising above the ground, as if he responded to Feng Ming's spirited, launching its hooves and gallops in the middle of the immense dust storm.

They were out of the city, and flew.

The trip of land aside with riparian were everywhere, the water wheels had a few prototypes included those of the original drawings from Feng Ming and the rest was select by Rong Tian who had chosen the skilful artisan in which designed and manufactured them.

Under the charming scenery, many farmers were busy harvesting with their back against the sky while collected the crops on the soil.

The laughing sounds mixed with utterly happiness on those farmer faces had imprinted into the eyes of Feng Ming.

The pride that never been there before was erupted fiercely inside the heart.

In the period of turbulences and yet he could able to play an anonymous role of being supportive silently from behind.

"Feng Ming, your horsemanship although had made progress, but you need not run this crazy."

Rong Tian gallops as he chased from behind called out loudly.

Feng Ming as if no longer able to hear anything else, just drifts along with his own thoughts at the passing sceneries. He was alone gallops like wind, eventually breath heavily and gaping for airs when he reins the horse to stop. He turned and dismounted from White Cloud, and facing many shiny golden trips of land, which endless stretches in the horizontal, knelt on the ground and vows, "Whether tomorrow, the paths will be block which layer upon layers of difficulties to be enclosed, Feng Ming will absolutely not regret that I had comes to this time! Absolutely will not regret of have met Rong Tian!"

Rong Tian sudden jolted, also leaned and jumped down the horses, knelt beside Feng Ming, facing the beautiful land of Xi-Rei kingdom and make an oath, "Whether tomorrow, the paths will be block which layer upon layers of difficulties to be enclosed, Rong Tian with one hand will take charges." He paused, turned to look Feng Ming and whispered, "Feng Ming, I will not let you regret."

The day had passed over afternoon period, June was beautiful and refresh thus gave the feeling of strong and as fiery deep inside both of them.

It was harvest time so the yellow colour was brilliant as its' moved and swinging by the wind, the body bent awkwardly shy.

On the ground, there are two people whom are still shoulder-by-shoulder side-by-side kneeling, turned silently looked at each other.

"Rong Tian, you had said that if I cry, will not accompany to the terraces field."

"I only said not accompany you to the terraces field, but had not said we're not going for excursion. Now that we had seen the terraces field, let us continue sightseeing."

Feng Ming calmly looked at him, slightly pursed his lips and suddenly burst into tears.

Rong Tian pulled his head gently onto his shoulder, feeling his shaking and sentiments transmitted to him from Feng Ming.

This magnificent land, you and I shared together.

Glorious pleasure of this world, I will share with you.

Only when disaster, dangers come then let me alone handle them.

Xi-Rei had many mountains and lesser in land mass, the biggest incentive was the scenery of beautiful forested mountains that could not be describe by any form of writing.

Rong Tian and Feng Ming oversees the strips of terraces fields as they wandering along the road, looking for the most lofty majestic mountain and tied the horses at the foot of the mountain. Hand in hand, together climbs up the mountain to fulfil what they had once promised to do, when the spring came they will be together sightseeing the mountains.

The guards behind them huffed out of breath and the most severely indisposed was the two guards carrying Duke Ming and the King's flags. They not only have to crawling up the mountain but also had to uphold the banners, and occasionally they have move sideways to transport its over in which to avoid the crooked tree fork and ramshackle that had branched out from horizontal.

The two of them had no idea that the guards were miserable following them, felt excited in their sightseeing without rest continues onward. They highly spirited climbed all the way to the top of mountain, gazing at the distance, and saw the river was located across the land, shiny golden reflection of wheat from that happy scene below, shadowed over the land were many farmers working on harvested the fields like many little ants.

"Look, it's the palace." Rong Tian was pointing at each building like small archetype in their eyes sights, "Over there is the Prince's quarter, and that building is the King's inner palace."

Feng Ming glared at him, "It turns out you also has your own residence, why are you every day spend the night over the Prince's quarter?"

Rong Tian laughed said, "If you do not mind in moving over to my residence, of course I will no longer need to go over to sleep in the Prince's quarter again."

"What a sly mouth." Feng Ming slightly groaned and shook his head; eyes suddenly changed, revealed a peculiar thought as he laughed, "Let us play another game, see who is greater love talker. I win, tonight able... to top you. "

Rong Tian slowly shook his head, "I'll not take the bait, so if you win you'll top me, but I win, then what?"

Feng Ming saw that his plot had exposed so he giggled, making face, and then turned his head to look left and right side to sneaky ridiculed him.

They stood on the top of mountain and watched over the lands for at least an hour, before the two

decided to descend the mountain and go to the area outside the capital, which had arranged for the picnic.

Feng Ming had before in the palace made a fuss that he would preferred to have a meal outside at least one time, enjoy a romantic picnic that the people have from this period, until he saw the pre-arranged location, immediately stupidly stood dumbfounded whilst his eyes stared at the site.

In the middle of the vast land between rows of poles with flying flags there at least are five large lit torches. There stood maidservants and guards outside the tent, briefly counted from sight at least thirty people, there at least five or six fire bushes burning brightly, the tip of the hot fire licked over an area of the sky.

Rong Tian proudly said, "It is not a bad layout, right? I'd the servants levelling the forest beforehand, this way the eyesight's could gaze at the clear river ahead. "

"This is a picnic?" Feng Ming had thought picnic style was together with few close friends sat on a sheet towel in the middle of grasses area, sitting around eating and singing with each other, but now, indeed it rather more identical to nomads setup.

"This is not it? You talked about having a meal outside the capital and listen to singing, I had told specifically musicians and dancers to prepare today. "

Therefore, this is what it means to be regal demeanour.

Lie-er had been wait for a long time, at last ran in front of them said, "Greets Great King, greets Duke Ming. The sky indicated it already getting late; Duke Ming must be reasonably hunger, would you like to have your meal now?"

Rong Tian nodded and asked Feng Ming, "Feng Ming, where you want to dine?"

"Riverbank."

"You'll advise for the servants to set up fires at the riverbank, and the musicians, dancers to be performing on the other side of the river."

Immediately, the servants were continues busy prepared as commanded.

Chiu Lian's group had returned from their own little trip earlier, quickly prepare the food and beverage arrangements to serve Rong Tian and Feng Ming for the meal as they constant gurgling of their own exciting stories in which they had encountered during the excursion.

Chiu Xing smiled and said, "We, maidservants had along the way listened to the praising of

Duke Ming, they said Your Grace was the heavenly messenger sent down to support the Great King."

Rong Tian very highly interest listened and laughed, "A month later there is the ceremony thanksgiving to God, I certainly have to thanks the heaven and earth that had brought Feng Ming to me."

The vocal singing and dancing from the other side was echoes like from a deep abyss, the fire burned was striking at a corner of the sky and filled the solid black night, allowed other to feel as if they are walking in the dreamland.

The atmosphere was lively, Chiu Yue mocked by Lie-er with a few choices of words, hence volunteer and took the bronze drums from the expert musician and play a solo song which caused Feng Ming to laugh and admiring applauded.

Lie-er disagreed with the assessment and arguing loudly, "Hey, this does not count? Let me give you a true show, virtually spins eighteen different forms." He jumped around and somersaults several times constantly.

Consecutives spins eighteen times, in which he landing in front of Chiu Lian and force she to take a sip of wine, Chiu Lian was not prepared in which she defensive unprepared for the attack thus caused her react violently and choked continuously.

Chiu Xing and Chiu Yue beside applauded and praised his antic. Rong Tian saw that Feng Ming had fun that he too was thrilled, trode to their side and filled cup of wine to full and gave it to Lie-er as he ordered, "These three maidservant had served Duke Ming well, on my behalf of the king rewarded everyone of them a cup of wine."

"Yes!"

Lie-er received royal command become more arrogant and aggravated, giggled before those three ladies, force them each person to drank a full cup of wine. Since it was a royal command, they could not excuse themselves, pretended to drink, and turned towards Rong Tian to thanksgiving for his reward.

Chiu Yue glared at Lie-er, "If three of us were drunk who will serve Duke Ming."

The threatened speech heard by Rong Tian as he smiled, "No problems, you all could get drunk tonight, since I will serve Feng Ming."

Chiu Yue stuck out her tongue as her face flushed up. Feng Ming was even redder, immediately threw down the cup of wine so that he could hits at Rong Tian, instead he was forced to take another two cups.

The round table dedicated to meal in the palace laid out on the grass; the group gathered around for the meal and played together.

When the meal had finished, Feng Ming was tipsy about ninth to eighth, of course natural giving Rong Tian numerous sweet opportunities for his wayward actions without struggled.

"Feng Ming, we should return to the palace."

Feng Ming mentally flushed up and too drunk, still leaning on Rong Tian's shoulder, shaken his head said, "Do not want to, the palace really stuffy."

His characteristic like to have fun, since the last few months he had stayed inside every day and forced to think how to help Rong Tian ambition in the future, was not his true nature. Today he drunk instantaneously had thrown out those piles of thinks far away; felt that all day in the palace training and learning had held little meaning for him.

Rong Tian's heart understood that he does not want to go back, stroke his backside and groaned, "Conquered the world, are not your fundamental aspirations. Why are you force yourself like that? "

In his heart was unease, he did not want to push Feng Ming back to the palace. Nevertheless, today he only plans for dinner and return immediately, so there no preparation for utensils and blankets for the overnight stopover.

Lie-er at his side gently reminded, "Your Majesty, this place is very close to the Third Princess Fan Jia residence."

Feng Ming sudden looked up said, "That's right; it had been too long since I last saw the Princess. Let us stay an overnight there." When he completed his speech, the alcohol was once again rises to his head caused him to fall back onto the shoulder of Rong Tian.

Rong Tian did not want Feng Ming to be disappointed and nodded, "Let us go over the Third Princess' residence and stay over for the night." Instant he gave ordered down, the servants, dancers and musicians to return to the palace while he led Feng Ming and Chiu Lian's group with the guards to go over the Third Princess' residence.



Chapter VIII

Part I

The third princess's mansion located on the outskirts of city; it selected and appointed by her hand. The third princess felt it more comfortable to live outside the palace since the Dowager Queen was dwelled inside the palace; they had a little dispute over her consort Duke An Xun.

She was a nature lover so the location selection was near the mountain and adjacent to the river, the mansion of course does not match the inner palace of the Dowager Queen but it was an exceptional elegant architecture.

It was already late at night, sudden a group of important guests arrived without warning caused the Third Princess a great deal of trouble to have the guestroom quickly prepared.

Chiu Lian's group had done their best and flat out to serve Feng Ming and Rong Tian. Rong Tian helped Feng Ming with his bath; of course, the person who was the most comfortable in the situation was a drunken Feng Ming. In his restless, he dragged Rong Tian around and singing loudly of pop songs, and without care constantly kissing Rong Tian. Eventually he was too tired and fallen asleep under the comfort of Rong Tian.

The next morning he slept until the sun had raised high over the sky. Rong Tian on the bed

already neatly dresses, "Since I've been crowned as the King, for the first time I had taken a day off from the Assembly Meeting; Duke Ming, how are you going to compensate me?"

"What?" Feng Ming sat up, blinked sleepily "Where is this place?"

Chiu Yue brought a bowl of warm water over to him and laughed, "Last night Duke Ming was drunk had loudly demanded to stay overnight here at the Third Princess' residence."

"Oh, so this is the Third Princess' residences." Feng Ming embarrassed laugh.

After changed into his daily costumes and with Rong Tian, they went out to meet the owner of mansion.

The third princess earlier had ordered her servants to prepare many exquisite breakfast dishes, especially arranged the breakfast meal taken place at the nearby stream.

"Duke Ming had awaken?" A beautiful person was truly a beautiful person and with a smile could warm another person heart. The ivory pearl finger point towards a natural rock that had carved into a chair, smiled and said, "Quickly let sit down, the breakfast meal had been prepared for sometime already."

"Excuse for being inconvenience to Your Highness." Feng Ming dragged Rong Tian to sit down. Since he no longer the Xi-Rei Prince, so he could not called her Duchess Aunt instead of her formal title the Princess.

The meal set aside of the stream which have a beautiful view; it felt like they were very far away from the countless conspiracies struggled that took place in the palace, hence permitted them to be relax and light hearted. The group eating and savouring the taste of the food that still was steamy hot from the breakfast dishes, and leisurely converses with each other.

"Last night Duke Ming drunk, are your head still hurt?"

Rong Tian replied, "He had taken medicine from the palace to clear his head."

The third princess smiled softly, "The Great King is truly devoted in caring for Duke Ming, it not strange for Duke Ming on those days that he had taken adventurous risk be a fake prince and travelled to Fan Jia."

Feng Ming felt discomfit as he clasped hands said, "On those days when I'd hidden my identity, please forgive me."

"If you talked about the hidden identity that is nothing, which need to be forgive. However, there still something Your Grace had done me wrong."

There seems to be a deeper meaning that implied in the speech so Rong Tian and Feng Ming, turned and looked at each other for a while.

Feng Ming shown confusion and asked, "What is the grievous that I had wrong Princess?"

"Duke Ming, on that day Your Grace had assured me that the Great King will demonstrate mathematics calculation but has not fulfilled his promise..."

"Ah!" Feng Ming sudden awakened, slapping his forehead and said, "Yes, I had been busy since then, there many unforeseen situations which had arisen thus I've completely forgotten about it" he giggled, "Apologized to Your Highness again. Truthfully, Rong Tian does not know how to calculate mathematics, at that time I did not want Princess to wed that insufferable Li King so I had lied. "

The Third Princess disappointed, "Oh..."

On that day, he had used his knowledge on mathematics calculation and Rong Tian reputation to trick the Third Princess to travel to Xi-Rei because of Xi-Rei welfare interest.

'Whether the Third Princess was good or bad, she is still a princess of a country and was renowned for her beauty. She unfortunately had a sorrowful destiny, become a widower at an early ages then her own father also deceased. Therefore, result of disputed for the throne in

which she could not able to remain safely inside her country. She even fooled by me. Now that I am thinking about it, felt a little unease.'

Feng Ming hastily added, "Nevertheless, Your Highness should not be troubled, I do know mathematics calculation, your residence is elegant and large. I do not mind to stay for a few days, and thoroughly discuss the subject with you."

"That's good." The third princess naturally very excited, her eyes were brighten and about to nod but her eyes suddenly swept over the sharp surface of Rong Tian who was heavily gloomy. She was a smart person, immediately changed the subject and said, "However, this place outside of the capital and not as safe as in the palace. Since you're very important should be more careful for a little bit. It is best that when Duke Ming has spare moment then come to visit and we'll continue our discussion."

"Yes." Feng Ming had consented instantly at the idea.

When they finished breakfast, the group farewell and returned to the palace.

Feng Ming kept his words *, the next day he waited for Rong Tian departed for the Court Hall immediately led Lie-er and Rong Hu to visit the Third Princess.

His knowledge, which accumulated from his education that had draws from thousands of years'

in mathematics development, each topic they discussed of course surprised the third princess greatly.

Although he has Rong Tian, a beautiful person stills a beautiful person, in which he laughs and enjoys himself thoroughly with his new companion. The third princess' ideology was extremely advance for someone in this period so Feng Ming felt comfortable as he debated with her; consequently, it was like that until late evening.

When they rushed back to the palace, of course Rong Tian scolded him for a while.

Chiu Lian's group stood aside have their necks retracted and listen to Feng Ming was being admonished, Lie-er said, "It is good that Duke Ming went out for unwind, a few months recently that he had followed regulations, I'm afraid if he too pent up would of course become sick sooner or later."

"That's true." Chiu Yue nodded and frowned, "Except the Third Princess is a beautiful person, I afraid Duke Ming stay any longer beside her would be hard to avoid..."

"This needless to be worry, you could see that the General King did not ban Duke Ming in meeting her, it was enough to know that the Third Princess had no influence with Duke Ming."

Chiu Xing agreed loudly then meekly said, "Beside the Great King, I could not see anyone able to influence and impact on His Grace."

The four of them stood there started whoop laughing for a while, Rong Hu's face quietly sat inside the room as he rebuked them, "You really do not know how to restraint yourself, even to bring the Great King and Duke Ming to poke fun at."

Lie-er covered his mouth said, "Elder Brother, wait until you serve Duke Ming longer then you will certainly become just like us."

Rong Hu reluctantly shook his head.

Feng Ming scolded by Rong Tian for a while, then late into the night he also tormented by Rong Tian who greedy in bed, in which he experienced many little deaths over the night, and even after some slept he still could not budge out of bed in the next morning. After Rong Tian had gone for his every day meeting, Feng Ming still lies in bed wiggled and struggled for half a day. He was wondering whether he should leave the bed, be a good man, and keep his promises to see the third princess for today.

Yesterday he and the Third Princess discussed a few examples law of physics, which could apply into the daily lives in this current period and have learnt a lot. It turns out that there are so many

things that he could apply the knowledge and develop tools to enhance the country productivity; it truly will be beneficial for the people of this country.

Although those tools have yet to be prepared or designed, and last night Rong Tian had scolded him so he have not able to talk to Rong Tian about them.

'Hn, let him be the first to be surprise, since it was I, the one who always got startled and frightened while he never been bewildered before, truly is losing face here.' Suddenly an image came to his mind, the Duke Ming's flag flying with the wind was instantly aroused his nerved.

When he thought about that, his whole body seems to revise about fifty per cent of the energy that Rong Tian had took away. Feng Ming out of the bed and stood up to change his clothes.

"Lie-er, let us visit to the Third Princess."

"Are we going there again today?"

"Of course, the Third Princess knowledge is far greater than the old teachers in the palace which mean I want to go every day."

He took Rong Hu and Lie-er back onto the road.

They were in high spirited when they go over the Third Princess but instantly was alarmed when they arrived there.

Yesterday this place was still fills with the natural light colours from the mountain and river, and the mansion had reflected the quietness elegance of the owner, but currently it seems covered with gloomy and bleak atmosphere. All the servants were dresses in white robes, their expressions were sombre and stupor. Everywhere hung white draperies; before the main gate on the top decorated with two white lanterns and on the lantern written in red ink with one word – ‘Feud (Enemy/Avenge)’ very large print.

Feng Ming face abruptly changed, his voice quietly whispered, "What could have happened?" as he rushed inside the main hall after dismounted the horse.

The close maidservant to the third princess, Fen Yan stood under portico wiped her tears when she saw Feng Ming arrival, after ritual greeting she said, "Greeting Your Grace. The Princess is not well today and could not see any guest; could Duke Ming come back in a few days?"

"Fen Yan, what have happened?" Feng Ming asked, "Why everywhere hung white draperies and the front door have lanterns ...what could..."

Fen Yan heard Feng Ming questions, bitten her lips as tears poured down.

"Is there something wrong with the Princess? Where is the Third Princess? "

Lie-er from the outside had pulled a servant aside and quietly asked the situation as his expression become serious and trode over to Feng Ming murmured, "Duke Ming, Fan Jia have a great burial."

"Great Burial? Long Tian's dead? "

Long Tian was the Second Consort of Fan Jia Princess. Rong Tian guessed was correct, as it not Quy Sam who had inherited the kingdom, but Long Tian the concealed man.

Lie-er shook his head, "No, it was Long Tian..." before he could complete his speech the third princess voice suddenly had echoes from inside the room.

"If Duke Ming had arrived, please come inside."

Feng Ming glanced at Lie-er and stepped inside the room.

The Third Princess was wearing a white dress and there no jewellery on her. She seems to be in agony that her eyes were a little blankly and deeply red swollen as it has wandered to Feng Ming

and she whispered, "I should say sorry to Duke Ming. Yesterday, it was great discussion on the tools used for farming but have not able to prepare them for today."

"No need to be in hurry." Feng Ming sat down, leaned forward and anxiously asked, "Your Highness, what had gone wrong?"

"There is tragedy occurred in Phone Gai, for Duke Ming this is not your problem."

"The princess please advised, so I could share with you at least a little bit during your trouble times."

The third princess sighed as her posture despondent, her voice filled sadness and indignantly asked, "Duke Ming had once dispatched Tong general to inform me that my Father King illness was actually being poisoned, do you still remembered?"

Feng Ming nodded, "Yes, I do remember."

"The poison my Father King infected, called Man She, one of the most poisonous in the world."

Feng Ming turned and exchanged glances with the Lie-er. The previous Fan Jia King was poisoned by Man She had already known to them but they had kept the secret from the third princess. Since she had learnt, the truth now hence that means something must have happened.

The third princess slightly wailed as she told them, "After my Father King funeral, Fan Jia had a flood disaster; the royal tomb was sunk in the water. To protect the King body from being damaged, the guards have followed an ancient custom to take the coffin away from there. Perhaps Father King's spirit in heaven was holy that when the coffin lifted it was instantly burst open, revealing his corpse. The whole body skin from head to toe was black, frozen like wooden log, only the laryngeal region coloured a light purple still remained." She sudden paused before continue; "Only those who was poisoned by Man She had such symptoms like that."

'That how it was exposed' Feng Ming sighed said, "The God's net are boundless, perhaps with injustice, Fan Jia King had manifest this occurrence. Nonetheless, what about the Great Burial is for..."

"When the news spread, Fan Jia was undergone a terrible panic, the royal family felt that the person who killed the previous King should be punished. Quy Sam led the group and quietly trying to find the murderer. Long Tian temperament was scaredy-cat but he held Fan Jia military power in the hands so he could do whatever he wants, at the result..." The third princess mournful and looked over the window, sobbing said, "The result was Long Tian covered the sky

with one hand*, at night he made a decree the royal family with treason crime and crackdown everyone, over thousands of young and old members."

Feng Ming eyes glared, "He... he capture the whole royal family, was..."

"Exception for Second Sister who had confined at the inner Queen's palace, the others ..." the third princess grinding her teeth, hissing sounds which seems extremely cold, "Had beheaded."

"They're beheaded?" Feng Ming suddenly jumped up.

The toxic wind like waves carried the mournful bitter cried from Fan Jia far away, as it approach directly into the third princess's residence.

The thousand lives of Fan Jia's royal family in the midnight had echoes screamed from their magnificent luxury room, regardless of ages and genders as fresh blood were splashed eruption under the sword.

It was for the first time Feng Ming really understood the cruelty and bloody behind the struggles for power in this ancient period.

The third princess truly was pitiful; she had been quietly mourning and now received the news of

another terrible loss, this time of her entire family and country. It was not just the whole royal family destroyed in a day but her second sister though did not kill since she was the Queen but the lady could not face the unbearable attacking on her family that the new Queen had driven mad.

Feng Ming contempt, "I cannot think of Long Tian could be that mad. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword. "

The Third Princess suddenly stood up, looked to the direction of Fan Jia, her eyes were fiery wrath which depth highest as the sky as she grinding her teeth, "Long Tian, I swear to kill you."

The third princess sudden met such a tragedy; Feng Ming could not continue to talk about farming tools. He felt sympathy toward her plight and stay a while to comfort her, Lie-er also help several times though Feng Ming very concerned for her well being but still have to return home for the day, before they departed the third princess said to Feng Ming said, "Your Grace need not worry for my welfare. I'll not die until the day I see Long Tian death. This place covered with white draperies and death ritual hence attracted negative energy, which heavily overcast, Duke Ming esteemed status should better not come here too frequently. "

"No problem." based on psychology, those who experience depression was often shows that they are strong resilience, but if no one tried to soothe and comfort them, it was more likely they will be fall apart. Therefore, Feng Ming insisted, "Tomorrow, I shall visit Your Highness again."

On the way, back to the palace, his mood was increasingly heavyhearted and Rong Tian had already returned to the prince's quarter.

"Rong Tian, could we wage war against Fan Jia?" Feng Ming asked straightaway upon seen Rong Tian.

Rong Tian also received the news this morning, frowning said, "You had gone again today to see the Third Princess."

"Yes." Feng Ming still looked at him and repeat his question, "Could we wage war against Fan Jia?"

"You want revenge for the Third Princess."

"It's not about revenge for anyone, but need to punish Long Tian, there is no moral in this situation."

Feng Ming pulled up his sleeves with his indignant wrath, "Homicide so easily like that, no longer has humanity in him. If he did not have the support of the Fan Jia's royal family and arisen to be a King today, Hn, now that he have the kingdom so he had guttered everyone."

Rong Tian pensive for a moment, "Fan Jia military forces are not weak, Long Tian now had completely weeds and eradicate all those who opposed his power, hence currently the military power should even more unified. Moreover, Xe-Rei had ended the war with Tong Kingdom so the soldiers need times to recuperate. "

"So ..."

"Feng Ming, do you not feel that Long Tian have such guts and despite the whole world look upon his action that in one night destroyed the Fan Jia's royal family is extremely uncanny?"

Feng Ming frowned, sat down quietly muttered, "That's correct, kingship in hand, he could slowly cut down the root one-step at a time and yet ..." He turned sharply to look at Rong Tian.

They were both consecutive remarked, "Ruo Yan!"

"Although, why would Ruo Yan pulling the string of Long Tian?" Feng Ming confused shook his head, "Did he not using Long Tian to restrain and control Fan Jia?" his questioning eyes falls fell onto Rong Tian.

Rong Tian focused and contemplates for a long time then shakes his head said, "Ruo Yan's

planning steps are profound and hard to measure, at the moment I could not think of anything.

Could it be that he have began to implement his conquer the world plans into action and Fan Jia is the first that he attacked? "

Feng Ming pursed his lips and raised his head to ask, "May be Long Tian started to try to get out of his control that Ruo Yan had resort to this tragedy. This to ensure that Long Tian subject to condemnation of the other kingdoms hence Long Tian forced to rely on the patronage of Li Kingdom and could not disobeyed Ruo Yan."

The two conversed for the rest of the day but in the end could not reach to any conclusions.

Note:

Tu Ha, a disciple of Confucius wrote/said,

Who want to change their lustful character to become a kind heart person: devoted to parents wholeheartedly, doing a kingly job, friendship upon how you're keeping your words*, so if anyone said that person have not educative, I would say that he had already learned.

Covered the sky with one hand= hidden the crime

Chapter VIII

Part II

The next day he followed Rong Tian to exclaim inaugurate before the country, that the nation feast celebration have official started, this festival was result from the surplus crops that collected this years due to proposal of Feng Ming on terraces fields and water wheels.

Fan Jia covered with dreary cloud of sorrow while Xi-Rei was opposite given that everywhere joyful and happy.

The strategy of Fan Jia discussed until very late last night but this morning at early hour, Rong Tian was determined to haul Feng Ming out of bed.

"Quickly change your clothes; we must go outside to see the citizen."

"To see the citizen?"

"Today the inaugurate celebration so we must appeared in the public. You are Duke Ming, must

also assume some responsibility." Rong Tian pulled the lazy Feng Ming out from the bed, and help him changed clothes, there no lack of small marks that traced on the other firm skin.

Chiu Lians' group also changed clothes for the inaugurate celebration, brightly pink and thousands red colourful, they brought the warm water jar and some breakfast dishes into, smiled and said, "Duke Ming was finally up, luckily the Great King is here otherwise no matter how hard your servants called, you would not awaken. "

After they ate breakfast, with Rong Tian departed the palace.

When the main gate of the palace opened, the shouts had ringed loudly.

"Long live the King!"

"Thousands of good fortunes to Duke Ming!"

"Xi-Rei, Hooray!"

...

Outside the gate thousands of people were moving, Feng Ming sat on White Cloud and overlooking the distance. Everywhere crowded with people, laughter and cheering ovation does not seems to stop, the tragic story at the third princess' residence yesterday, seemed to be blow away by the myriad shouts, instantly felt at ease and his mood improved.

"Such liveliness."

Rong Tian turned to see him and smiled, "It will be more liveliness much later. The wine festival for two days and two nights in the city, the civilians could freely drink at the festival and could take some jars home so their relatives could enjoy together."

Lie-er at one side giggled, "Duke Ming will not interested in the banquet, more likely enjoyed watching the circus animals especially with the monkeys."

As expected, Feng Ming brightens his eyes as it flashed, "Circus animals? Is there monkey? "

"You're the Duke Ming of Xi-Rei, yet still acting like a child." Rong Tian shaken his head and sighed, "I also want to see them with you, and unfortunately it is custom that the King must followed, strictly regulated to sit on horseback for hundred pay respect to him all day. If you want to go, then go by yourselves."

Feng Ming blinked, "So let me stay with you, this is fine."

Rong Tian saw his unwilling face, feel very loving toward the other man willing sacrificed thus he laughed softly, "Needless to do so, I alone could do this duty. You cannot be bored today just go play. Remember, must take Lie-er and Rong Hu with you."

Feng Ming shouted joyfully, turned and winked his signal at Lie-er, hastily ran to hide away from everyone sight. Rong Hu also obeyed Rong Tian's command as he persistent silence followed them.

Lie-er pulled Feng Ming back to the palace, into a small room reserved for servants' rank to rest.

"Yesterday the King had deliberately arranged the famous theatre groups around the country to perform in the capital, he said for the festival celebration entertaining, but in fact was it not for Duke Ming?" Lie-er took a bundle in his hand which packed civilian clothes with masks, boasting evil laughed, "Since we going to wander around the bustling city, of course, your servant had well prepared."

Feng Ming giggled and nodded "Lie-er indeed smart, how do you know that I want to disguise?"

The two people laughing as they changed into civilian clothes, when they leaved the little room, and saw Rong Hu holding a sword and guard at the door; of course, he had also changed to an old martial arts costume. His stern face made him look like a wanderer swordsman.

Feng Ming entertained himself at the expense of the other man whilst he wandering around Rong Hu looking up and down and sniggered, "I could not distinguish Rong Hu who normally quiescent quiet, so quickly, had changed clothes faster than us."

Lie-er proudly nodded, "Of course, how else he caught the Great King's eyes?"

Rong Hu under the scrutiny by the two silliest people, which felt unnatural as he drily coughed, "Where Duke Ming would like to go? We have to go now."

"Of course, see the circus animals first!" Feng Ming and Lie-er screamed together and ran outside.

Rong Tiger reluctantly shook his head, following them at the rear.

The street and market were bustling with immense jubilant, everywhere in the capital there are

many group gathered in the crowds, if they want to know what game taken place inside, they have to hustle and roughly moved to get inside for a look.

Feng Ming and Lie-er encroached for four consecutive times before they watched the monkeys circus, after that they played and joked before finally stopped outside the snakes stall.

Rong Hu was afraid that during the busyness that someone attacked them, alert stood behind guarded Feng Ming, separated him from the crowd that jostled from behind, the sword never once left his hand.

Lie-er face looked like he playing wholeheartedly with Feng Ming, in fact hidden in the sleeve a small dagger and the eyes glanced around all the time to ensure no one made a move against Feng Ming. The person truly enjoyed and entertained for the outing was Feng Ming, who the happiest person of the group.

After they scanned the snake charmers, they were sneaking around the other crowds before head for the centre of festival celebration and trode at the site for a round. There many commoners tried to get a jar of great wine and good food from the royal palace, Feng Ming dived into the wine queue to receive the alcohol. When he came out the whole body was sweating but had gained a jar filled with wine and a large piece of roast meat as well.

"Today I want to have fun so could not be drunk." Feng Ming winked signal at Lie-er, they began to giggles and together brought the wine jar to Rong Hu mouth.

Rong Hu martial art was best among the three, he also received order to ensure Feng Ming have fun today and the alcohol had not tested for Feng Ming to drink, thus accepted the jar and allowed the two of them to tease and make fun at him.

The block of roast meat Feng Ming gave to the children nearby him to bring home, they scream excited when receive the meat.

Feng Ming the world champion aimless wander who had played the entire morning of course felt a bit exhausted. Lie-er and Rong Tiger bodies not fared much better since never once relaxing during the outing could not bear any longer so Lie-er advised, "It's time for lunch, so let us return the palace."

"Rong Tian also returns the prince's quarter for lunch?"

"The Great King and the Dowager Queen at noon need to go to the palace tower to have meal with the people."

This also a custom, one of the priority policy in Xi-Rei, when the country have festival celebration, the great king with a highest rank woman in the palace to have meal at the palace tower to represent the thousands of people outside, of being having meal with them.

When he heard Rong Tian not to return to prince's quarter, Feng Ming have no interest to go back again, he was gravely mused for seconds, suddenly raised his head said, "We should visit the Third Princess."

This place filled with joys and yet her residence would be mournful. He thought what a cold and warm world, could not help but felt guilty arose in his heart.

Lie-er groaned that Feng Ming was caring too much and pure-minded, smiled and said, "Okay, we will visit the Third Princess. The only thing is ... Duke Ming must change to white clothes before we departed."

"Uhm that a good idea." Feng Ming nodded.

The three of them went to the side gate of the palace, Lie-er had already hide multitude of clothes depending on the circumstances for different uses.

Feng Ming went ahead, Lie-er deliberately walked slowly two steps behind then whispered in Rong Hu's ear, "Duke Ming is leaving the capital, we must take a hundred bodyguards with us, and not approach too close or he would find out."

Rong Hu shook his head and slowly said, "Two hundred."

"Yes, two hundred, I will help Duke Ming to change garments. Elder Brother manoeuvres the troop to be ready." Lie-er laughed with Rong Hu before quickly steps forward to catch up with Feng Ming.

After change their clothes completed, Lie-er ordered the servant to bring White Cloud and two other stallions to them.

The three people sat on horses, leaving the city and gallops in the direction of the princess' residence.

When they arrived before the third princess' mansion, the place was still gloomy and covered with white at their eyesight, it seemed the joyful festival in the city not related to this place, Feng Ming taken a deep breath and felt sorrowful.

Last night discussion with Rong Tian, finally decided to further observed the situation clearly before wage war against Long Tian. Although the action was correct choice, but before the third princess plight Feng Ming, felt ashamed that he could do no more for her.

The third princess knew Feng Ming arrived so she entertained him in the inner chamber, they sat down beside the window, she forced a smile said, "I had not thought Duke Ming able to come here since today is a national celebration day."

"The princess also knew today have inaugurated the festival?"

The third princess turned and looked through the window, leisurely said, "The joyful sounds were overflows which covered for thousands of miles, of course... who would not hear. In the world, the sad cried could not hear nor be bothered by many." Her eyes were slowly vacillate and stopped at distantly ahead.

The bamboo rod that usual used when she immersed in mathematics calculation was now leaning quietly on one side, made the scene even drearier infinitely. "I'd always troubled for mathematics problem and ignored the dispute from the outside; eventually found I no longer had a home." She smiles regretful; the corner of the lip illustrated an endless bitterness.

Feng Ming sighed, "Your Highness, please do not be too sad, one day we will definitely make sure Long Tian tasted the death of thousands blade karma."

The third princess shook her head, "Easy to say then be done, Long Tian still the King of a country, I'm at best was nothing but a female wanderer. Oh, Duke Ming why are you here today?"

"Uhm?"

"Sadness contemplation was not for Duke Ming, Duke Ming should quickly return to city. How the national festival could celebrate without Duke Ming? Oh, I still remembered my own childhood, each festival, together with older sisters sneaked out the palace and tucked between the bustling crowds see the town liveliness, and upon returned our Father King would reprimanded us but the Queen Mother always protected us." The princess gazed across Feng Ming shoulder reminiscent as he smile and tears started to fell down.

Feng Ming heavyhearted, on that day had been considering the third princess as relative when he called her "Duchess Aunt", since her family had all eradicated, he felt he must somehow attempt to comfort her from being misery. At this time, it is best to distract her attention and take her tragic thought away so in deep voice said, "The human mind always keep plenty of their beautiful memories. Does Your Highness know something called a video camera that could

capture the scenes and sounds perfectly, then at later day could opened again, and shows everything instantly vividly life like."

The third princess wondered, "Is there such a magical object like that? Scenes and sounds to be capture... it can't be possible."

"Inside the video camera had hidden much extremely high advance mathematics computing thus virtually magical." Material in the modern period also often had taken mathematic into account for it works. "I will slowly explain the concept to the Princess."

Feng Ming wholeheartedly attempted to ensure the princess does not to fall into depression, well pleased that she had become curious at the topic and turned to Lie-er said, "Could you send someone to reported to Rong Tian that I'll stay overnight with the Third Princess and we shall conversed about mathematics calculation and not return to the palace."

The third princess trembled softly, "Duke Ming stayed here tonight?"

"Uhm, we will continue to discuss."

Lie-er exchanged glances with Rong Hu, outside the mansion was guard by two hundred soldiers,

even someone suddenly attacks would take some time. Rong Hu nodded and Lie-er ran outside to ask one of the guard to deliver a message for Feng Ming.

Feng Ming saw Lie-er had sent the messenger, began to explain the principle of the camera for the princess, "Your Highness, we will first must analyse the images and sound separately. Let began with images, the image issue is relate to observation study. Last time we talked about foundation of observation study, light rays travel in straight lines..."

They had spoken for more than half an hour.

Lie-er and Rong Hu had never heard such exciting things so they also immense into the subject.

The third princess seemed still grieved that when Feng Ming stopped, quietly asked, "Duke Ming really spends the night here?"

"Of course." Feng Ming glanced at the princess, lightly voice replied, "Feng Ming had promised that I'll treat the Princess like Dowager Queen, Rong Tian was very busy with work that he could not do it so let Feng Ming substitute for him that should be all right."

The third princess seems to be emotional as she mused for a moment, gently lifted the handkerchief at corner of her eye and turned to Fen Yan, "Fen Yan offered tea."

"Yes." Fen Yan had gone outside and come back with four cups of hot tea.

The third princess said, "This is the famous Fan Jia's tea called **That Huong**, which I like to drink the most. Unfortunately... no one in Fan Jia prepared this tea for me anymore."

Feng Ming picked up a cup, quietly gulped a little to flavour the taste and applauded, "As expected, it's a good teas." His face solemn and serious promised, "I will ensure that every year to prepare That Huong tea for the Princess, so that Your Highness could able to enjoy every day."

Rong Hu was lowers his head and took a deep breath, "It does smell good."

"That famous tea was flavour for its aroma, moreover extremely rare. We surely are lucky to be with Duke Ming." Lie-er laughed as he drank a little, his face sharply froze, "This is like **Thai Huong**."

He had always wandered outside the kingdom and with sleeping medicine extremely meticulous research.

Upon heard Lie-er words Rong Hu stood up, eyes widened, a sound rang as the sword had drawn immediately pointing at the third princess.

Feng Ming shocked said, "Rong Hu stopped, you're not allowed to attack. How could the Third Princess..." The words had not completed on his lips as head slightly faint.

There a bang as Lie-er tea cup fallen down on the ground.

Then another bang come from the cup of tea in Feng Ming's hand also hit on the floor.

The third princess seems to be fearlessly and calm as she coldly looked at the swords of Rong Hu.

Then the third bang sounded from Rong Hu sword fallen on the ground.

After that there was three consecutive thumps as the three people fainted.

The room then become utterly silence.

The third princess seems to be nonchalance as she looked over the three people laying on the floor, exhaled softly, "The sleeping drug is truly frightening." She turned and stared at Fen Yan,

corner of lips sadly smiled, "Fen Yan, I really did not expect that you're a spy from Li Kingdom."

Fen Yan proceeds to kneel in front of the third princess, looked up and said, "Although Fen Yan a spy of Li Kingdom, but after being with Your Highness for many years, of course had regarded the Princess as my master. This morning, the princess had secretly talked with Li Kingdom's envoy and agreed to exchange Duke Ming for Long Tian's head. Your Highness gets revenges for the death of the royal family of Phone Gai. Is Princess still not made up your mind?"

"One Duke Ming, to exchange for Thien Long and ten years of peace that Li Kingdom will not invade Fan Jia." The third princess stared at Feng Ming who was comatose; linger for sometimes, deeply sighed and disclosed, "Duke Ming please do not account for my callous, the hate for the loss of country and family, I could only acknowledge for avenge. I advised you not to stay, but you had insisted staying. May be my family in heaven had forced me to take this opportunity?" She lifted up the heads, looked outside the window, and asked gravely, "Duke Ming was now at hand, how you are arranging to leave Xi-Rei, of course you must have anticipated this already."

"It was too dangerous but unexpected Feng Ming had sent message to Rong Tian for overnight stay, the God must bless Princess." Fen Yan smiled, "The two hundred soldiers outside was unaware of what had happened. We will rely on the tunnels inside the mansion and flee, the next morning when they discovered it would be too late by then."

The third princess pensive for a moment, then nodded said, "OK, just follow what you had planned."

"Yours Highness and I will be travel on the same road until Xi-Rei boundary then we will split our way. Li King made preparations in Fan Jia, when you are arrive back will immediately ascended to be the Queen of Fan Jia. Fan Jia once again rule by the rightly heir. Fen Yan congratulates the Princess first." Fen Yan bowed reverently before the third princess.

"Ruling Fan Jia was not my choice so I will quickly engage a new consort, hoping to save the royal family line and continued to have heirs."

"Time is priceless; Your Highness let us departed."

"Uhm."

The darkness cast over the vast land but the capital festival still had yet ended, whilst the two hundred soldiers quietly hiding outside the third princess' residence to prevent any external attacked.

Xi-Rei King received Feng Ming's notice and frowned as he left the prince's quarter, unwilling to return to fulfil the obligations of the King, which participate the banquet with his subjects.

Inside the Prince's quarter, Chiu Yue sat under candlelit glow and sewing riding clothes for Feng Ming since he currently riding White Cloud which purely white; she had choose the colour white fabric but contours with beautiful deep blue.

Chiu Lian inside the kitchen was trying out the new ingredient, so that she could bake the bird dish for Feng Ming next morning meal.

Chiu Xing yawned before leisurely idle escaped to the bedroom.

The bright moon hung high over the top, outside the city the sound of insects heard as a carriage quietly leaved. The horse hoops and wheels had wrapped in thick cotton, as well the horse jaws blocked so no one could able to hear the whinny sounds.

The tactics had deeply designed which making the situation suddenly precedes without any warnings.

The kidnapping indeed had smoothly operated which unmatched by anyone before.

Xi-Rei King Rong Tian and Duke Ming Feng Ming, in a day that never anticipated by them, in a helpless situation unable to supposition had forced to separate.

Chapter IX

Part I

Feng Ming swallowed a mouthful of tea, slowly regained consciousness; found that surround furniture, which displayed around him, was completely different.

His eyesight saw the adornment was completely opposite with Xi-Rei, many fringed draperies with crimson colour hung from the ceiling touch the ground, the floor was made of stones which grind to glossy surface seems to be from unknown origin, in the mist of pitch black was slight touch of golden brightly coloured.

Rong Hu and Lie-er were not at his side.

"Uhm ..." Feng Ming blinked his eyes, only just awaken but the whole body felt exhaustion that

he unable to describe. When he sat up the waist was hurting caused he moaned a little and frowned.

Someone heard the moaning as the person had instantly came up close to him.

"Finally, you've awake?" Above the head suddenly appeared a small girl about ten years old, she had two very long braids though it plaited very neat thoroughly, there are deep blue clips settings across and at the tip was black pearls which seems to be emerge and fade away, at first sight looked extremely sophisticated and cute.

She tilted her head slightly stared at Feng Ming for a while and giggled, "The Third Princess said when you awaken, and you will definitely have a lot of questions to ask. However, firstly it needs to be in a hurry, they will come here later." Her voice carried a fine delicate sound when reached the ear felt particularly comfortable, her fingers tip strokes Feng Ming's face "The Third Princess said your eyes are very bright, very beautiful, I'd wait for nearly two days before you opened your eyes."

Feng Ming looked around confused, "Where is this place? Are we are not at the residence of the Third Princess? Where are Lie-er and Rong Hu?" Suddenly remembered before he felt sleepy, Lie-er was suspicious and Rong Hu had taken his sword out, then he felt the loss of consciousness. Feng Ming suddenly shivered, "Could it be possible that the Princess had drugged their tea? Why would she do that? I..."

"Oh my," The young lady covered Feng Ming mouth with her soft hands, "I said you will have to wait until they returned to ask question, did you not heard me?"

Feng Ming silent, distrustful glanced around.

In that day when he met the third princess and Fan Jia King, he had Lie-er and Tong general waited outside; when he tied up in his previous kidnapped at least he knew Miao Guang as an acquaintance, and with other situation Lie-er, Chiu Lian's group never separated from him, otherwise Rong Tian had always beside as well. At this moment when suddenly woke up found himself in a strange place with no familiar face, his heart felt unease and insecurity and the fear was smouldering surged inside.

If he had known that Li King sent a messenger secretly to discuss with the third princess of captured him, he would no doubt be so scared right now.

The little girl saw that Feng Ming no longer asking questions so she relaxed sitting on the bed, constantly staring as if evaluated Feng Ming, like any child, she saw him as a new toy started to touch here and there. At this point, she seemed a bit like Miao Guang Princess, Feng Ming saw the girl still a child, was only curious harassed him, in which he did not bothered to prevent the child pulling his sleeves and touches the ears.

"You are Feng Ming, as well Duke Ming right?" The little child innocence laughed at him, despite her age anyone could see that she would be a beautiful woman in the future, "I called Lin Tan."

Feng Ming mind trying to process what could have happened; he does not felt agreeable to nod at her, "Ah, your name Lin Tan. Lin Tan, where is this place? How far is it from Xi-Rei?" He knew that from the architecture and displayed furniture around that he had taken away from Xi-Rei, but first he want to know which country he was currently dwelled.

The child suddenly seemed mature, shook her head, "No, you must call me Lin Tan Princess."

"Princess?" Feng Ming felt aghast, he probably arrested by a king of another country? Exception for Li King, was there another King that hostile against him? Or...

His eyes rolled and carefully asked, "Lin Tan Princess, do you know Ruo Yan?"

'For thousands time, please do not tell me you are the sister of Li Kingdom Miao Guang Princess, and this place is Li Kingdom's palace.'

Lin Tan pouted her small lips, tilted her head up and snorted, "Ruo Yan is the **greatest bastard**

of Li Kingdom, always bullying our Bo Jian, someday Elder Brother will definitely destroyed Li Kingdom."

Feng Ming relieved, "It turns out you're a Princess of Bo Jian, so I have arrived to Bo Jian?"

Bo Jian and Xi Rei was between three other countries Li Kingdom, Fan Jia, Yong Yin, thus very far from Xi-Rei. This nation once had prosperous by fabrics weaving and the most prosperous nation than ten other nations, but in recent years with two generation of kings had not able to make progress in the economy thus the country have declined. Meanwhile their neighbour Ruo Yan had burning ambition, which increasingly threatened to Bo Jian. Feng Ming had recently for the last few months studied hard on international politics hence he have a general understanding of the nations situation.

"Are you the daughter Bo Jian's King?" Feng Ming asked Lin Tan.

Lin Tan again shook her head said, "The Great King does not want me for a daughter, and Lin Tan does not want to be his daughter either. Elder Brother said, waiting for him to become a King, and then will ordained me as Princess. "

Feng Ming slightly in dismayed, he was ambiguous when in come to the matter of the court, this may of course was individual involved that attempt for personal gain, he changed the subject to

asked, "Lin Tan Princess, who live in here?" He felt tricked a little girl was not a significantly matter.

Lin Tan laughed, "The person who lived here are you, isn't that you, who just slept on this bed?"

Feng Ming encountered such a petty problem so he reluctantly smiled and asked, "So who these rooms belong to?"

"Of course it belongs to Elder Brother."

"It belongs to your Elder Brother? What is his name? "

Outside the door suddenly a clear laughter said, "My name was not worth mentioning, this should not troubled Duke Ming that Your Grace must personally taken interest in them."

Lin Tan leaped up and shouted, "Elder Brother had come." She quickly as lightning ran out the door.

Feng Ming surprised and turned his head, the curtains was instantly lifted, a male about Rong Tian age walked closer. He wore a blue garments and on the surface has all kinds of flowers and birds that made the eyes blurred, its showed off Bo Jian weaving techniques that made people

appreciated and amazed at the sight. The costume seemed to be valuable, and put on the other man made him distinguished and shown the tall muscular body and his extraordinaire appearance.

It was obvious that the other man had studied martial art for it take a very powerful arm to holds Lin Tan with a hand comfortably walked into the room. Lin Tan extremely close to the person as she leaned into him and giggled.

Handsome men of this period are too many. When Feng Ming felt unrelenting whist the other man gently drop-down Lin Tan and clasped his hands before Feng Ming, revealed a smiling face that look relatively carefree, "I am Bo Ling, had ventured to invite Duke Ming to Bo Jian, plead Duke Ming for forgiveness." When he finished had stoop lowly and bowed to Feng Ming.

Feng Ming carefully evaluate him for a while and stunned said, "You certainly must be the most handsome man in Bo Jian." If he had to be fair, if comparing for general appearance for handsomeness then Rong Tian would not be equal to this man.

Bo Ling never thought when Feng Ming seen his face would firstly praise on his features, laughed and said, "I would not dared to compare with Duke Ming."

Bo Ling was charming man which no lesser than Rong Tian, Feng Ming had always thought that Rong Tian's character was most elite of this period so he could not help but felt frightened of the other man present. Feng Ming lowers his head to contemplate, *'why does this Bo Ling lived*

happily but kidnapped me from Xi-Rei to here, I had never have any relations with this Bo Ling? Could it be Rong Tian? Yeah, this guy is handsome and charming, certainly like Mei Ji in which reputation wildly spread and that Rong Tian, with man and woman alike must tease this man as well.'

When he had thought this become restless, *'So he is another love rival for Rong Tian then? Fallen into love rival hand...'* his hair instantly stood up. When his head was full with rubbish thoughts, he heard a voice from the outside.

"Duke Ming had awaken?"

The curtain lightly lifted as a person approached from outside, softly flexible strode over and wore a mourning white costume. The person face like a peach flower, this of course was the third princess of Fan Jia.

Feng Ming saw the third princess, temporarily brought all sorts of nonsense on the speculation of love rival thrown aside, surprised sat up on the bed, shouted, "Third Princess, what is the meaning of this, I was clearly..." he was only half way then started to shriek "Ah" and fallen back down on the bed.

The body could no longer dictated by his command, only move a little and it felt like countless needles stabbed into his flesh thus was painful and numbs.

The Third Princess rushed forward "Duke Ming should not be too anxious, you had slept more than a month, and on the route was yank around by the rough road, and of course unavoidable feeling pains now though about two days more and the movement should be back as normal."

"Slept over a month?" Feng Ming glared.

"Naturally, from Xi Rei to Bo Jian with greatest efforts still take at least a month."

Bo Ling saw that Feng Ming had no idea what going on said, "To be fair let us told him about situation for once."

This sentence was the same idea of Feng Ming, so he nodded persistently.

The third princess nodded, "So let me speak."

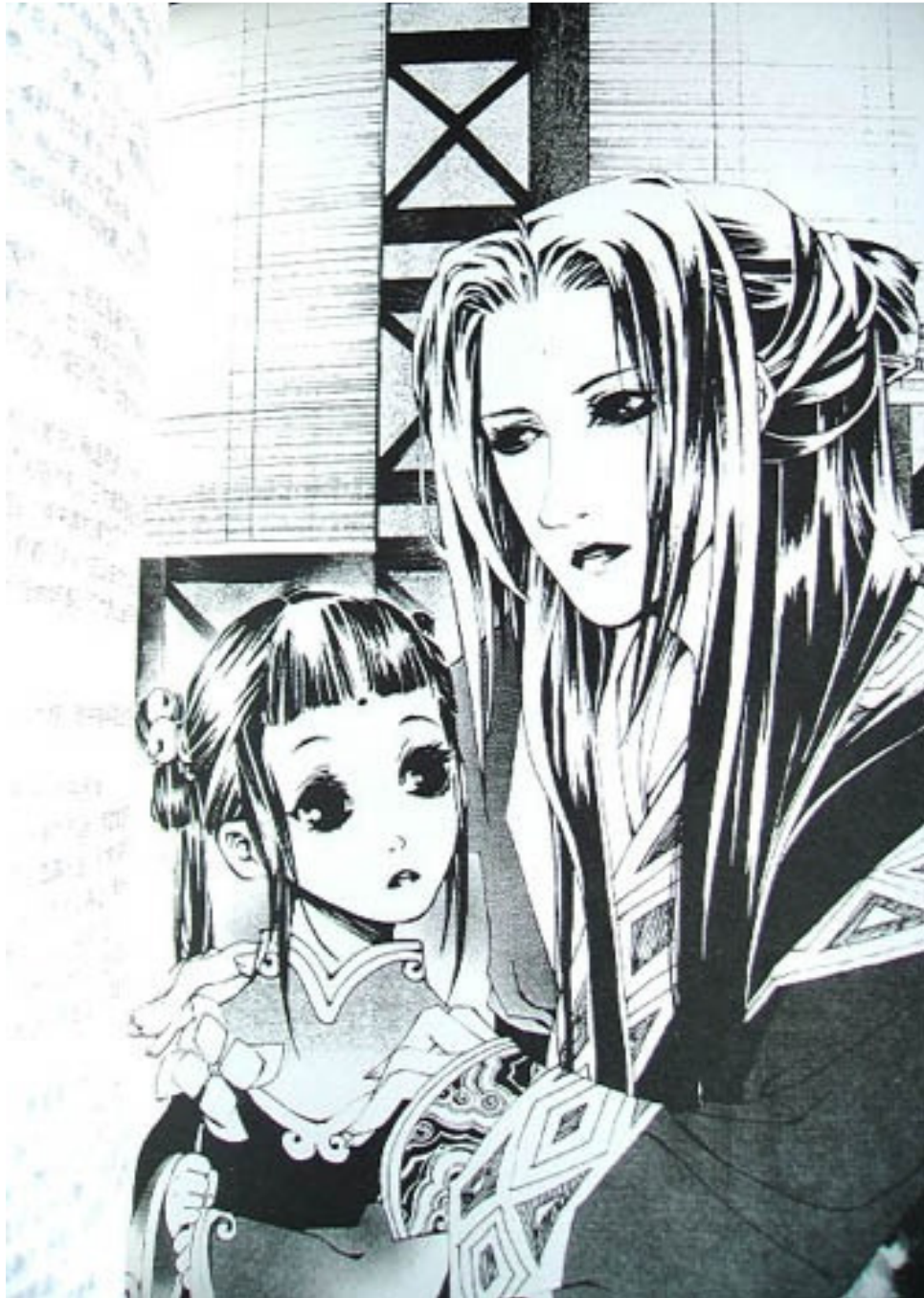
Everyone chooses a place and sat down; and Lin Tan found a soft pillow as she put behind Feng Ming's neck.

"In fact it started on the morning of national festival of Xi-Rei, a messenger of Ruo Yan came to..." the third princess honestly retold the story and the plots had generated by Li King.

Feng Ming heard and felt immense feared, he never thought such a calmly surface that Ruo Yan had arranged satisfactorily an offensive attacked.

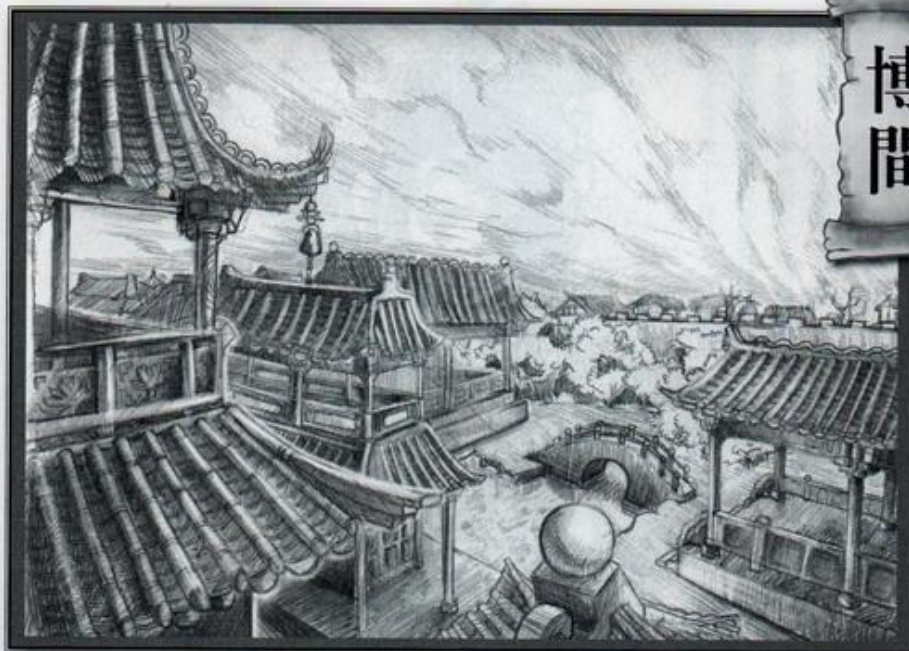
"Ruo Yan heart was like a wolf, whether he sent a messenger and promise with his blood vowed, how I could believe him?" the third princess explained, "Fan Jia tragedy, I had predicted that Long Tian would not be so mad to do it alone, thus Ruo Yan must be from behind and pulling strings. He used Long Tian head in exchange for Duke Ming, Hn, I'll not let his evil plot become reality."

Feng Ming of course nodded with approval, "Yes, if the princess had listened to Ruo Yan, he will certainly breach the trust agreements, given Your Highness to Long Tian. Of course Long Tian just said the word and he weeds out everyone of the royal family."



Feng Ming & Lin Tan (Lin Wingceltis)

博間



王宮特色

非常精緻華麗，看得出來浪費了大量人力物力，可惜王宮不遠處，就是衰敗破落的民房，對比出國家治理者的無情。

國家簡介

博間和離國相鄰，一直遭到強大離國的威脅，對離國敢怒不敢言。

博間國家實力不雄厚，百姓生活貧苦，王族卻過著奢華的生活，崇尚奢靡華麗，建造精巧優美的宮殿。

眾王子之中，除了最受歧視的博間王私生子博陵外，都欠缺治理國家的才華和智慧。



風于九天

單海

Chapter IX

Part II

However, the third princess shook her head again, "Duke Ming mistaken, if I had give Duke Ming then Ruo Yan as the agreement, Ruo Yan will definitely fulfil the contract. The vowed of his blood is the most sacred royal promises, if betrayal his families would be punished by God and no one is exception."

"That is superstition." Feng Ming shook his head, suddenly remembered Rong Tian mention about soul transferred, which is also superstitious, but his soul had come to this world. It seems that there are a lot of magic on earth, moreover, he steal a glanced at the princess and Bo Ling's attitudes, they were sincerely believes in this super-mystical forces. When he thought about the possibility, and immediately the whole body was coldly sweat, "Fortunately, the Third Princess had reached the correct conclusion and had not exchange me for Long Tian." If she had believed, that Ruo Yan would not breach the trust of blood vows thus very likely that the third princess would exchange him.

'Wouldn't that mean I will be unjustly killed?'

The third princess said, "When Ruo Yan messenger arrived, I already known Fan Jia royal family killed by Ruo Yan's scheme, how could I cooperate with him? Long Tian nothing but another pawn in Ruo Yan's hand, sacrifice thousands of lives of my royal family to obtain Duke

Ming, Ruo Yan was too cruel. I do not want to hurt Duke Ming, but unexpectedly Fen Yan was a spy of Li Kingdom, who had taken a step ahead of me. "

Feng Ming felt like a fool, "Fen Yan was spy of Li Kingdom? Nevertheless, why am I here in Bo Jian? "

"On this point, let me carry on." Bo Ling continued, "The Third Princess and I was childhood friend, that we are confidante. A month ago I had secretly come to Xi-Rei to visit the Princess, it coincidence at the time she received the bad news from Fan Jia. Ruo Yan sent the messenger to her, and then Duke Ming arrived in which Fen Yan drugged your tea, I hidden inside the residence and witness everything clearly."

The third princess nodded, "Bo Ling was the key person who had outlined the strategy for me. I pretended to cooperate with Ruo Yan, but on the road, I had swapped Duke Ming. The fake Duke Ming escorted to Li Kingdom while real Duke Ming travelled to Bo Jian. "

"There is a fake Duke Ming?" Feng Ming's eyes widen. The situation plot had developed to an extent that was unforeseen, compared to a movie it was a thousand times more spectacular.

The third princess smiled softly, "Is there only Li Kingdom's Miao Guang who best makeup artist in the world? My makeup art would of course easily exposed under Ruo Yan's eyes but to cover up with a little brat like Fen Yan this of course not difficult. "

'The matter of someone substitutes for me was not a big deal but I felt sorry for him since Ruo Yan will dismember his body.' Feng Ming heavy hearted but he now was no longer naive like those early days, looked at Bo Ling and remembered, *'Bo Ling had secretly intruded into Xi-Rei to see the Third Princess, concealed so well, even hidden from Fen Yan a close trusted maidservant, their relationship definitely not trivial, absolutely cannot simply by intellectual friendship level. They probably are secret lovers.'*

This merit theory had wiped away the love rival, which permitted his mood become better, and relaxed, suddenly he remembered one thing, quickly asked the third princess, "What about my two guards?"

"The two servants unconscious on the ground were inconvenient to take along; Fen Yan proposes to kill them." The third princess saw Feng Ming's face pales as she briefly smiled, "I knew they are Duke Ming close servants, so had not allowed Fen Yan killed them hence had leaved them behind at the mansion. Although, no doubt when they had woken up will likely be subjects to the wrath of Xi-Rei King. "

It still better received punishment than being kill, Feng Ming able to shake off the heavy load that weighted in his heart and asked the most important issue, "So why are Your Highness had taken me to Bo Jian? Plead Princess immediately communicate with Rong Tian, to take me back."

When he completed the speech, the room suddenly was silence.

The third princess and Bo Ling looked at each other, exchanged ideas through their gazes that outsiders would not understand. Bo Ling signal quietly with the third princess, then said to Feng Ming, "I afraid temporarily I'm unable to send information to Xi-Rei King."

"Why?"

"Duke Ming wisdom has known throughout the world; do not hesitate in tries to speculate."

This was indeed not difficult to guess, Feng Ming not stupid and recently with Rong Tian coached him about politics. Feng Ming bowed his head to think, suddenly looked up, solemn voice, "Your intention is no better as well, wanted to borrow someone knife to kill, by let Rong Tian think that Ruo Yan had abducted me hence sow discord the diplomatic relationship between the two countries."

"Ha ha, Xi-Rei and Li Kingdom had always been like water and fire; how could it be called diplomatic relationship?" Bo Ling made a serious face and said to Feng Ming, "I'll not hide from Duke Ming, Xi-Rei had officially declared war to Li Kingdom already."

Feng Ming felt someone knocked a strong smack in the head, the moon and stars seems swarmed before his eyes, "Declaration of War? Rong Tian must be mad; Xi-Rei had ended the war with

Tong country, our country only just become peaceful again. The most important thing was to regain national resources but he dared to declare war on Li Kingdom, which situated two countries apart? "

Bo Ling applauded softly said, "Duke Ming truly devoted to Xi-Rei, able to forecast ahead. Xi-Rei King also talent, if not for Duke Ming that he would be too emotional involved, absolutely will not deployed the troops to wage war against Li Kingdom at this disadvantage time."

The more Feng Ming thought about it, the angrier he get, he punched the bed and growled, "The Third princess, the person who had hurt you is Ruo Yan, why are you hurt Rong Tian?" If he had the strength to stand up, maybe he would have slapped her, hits her until she was wakeful again from that blind hatred.

Never had thought the Third princess emotion had intensely risen to this level.

The third princess said coldly, "Rong Tian would never agree to wage war with Li Kingdom for me, but if for Duke Ming, extremely capable. This fight no matter who were the winner and loser will of course impair Ruo Yan's resources greatly. Ruo Yan power decline thus will also mean his wicked intention for Fan Jia will be cooler. Thus, my country could exist longer. I of course will do what is best for my country." Her black eyes glistening like mercury stopped on Feng Ming for temporary moment and sighed.

Feng Ming snorted then turned and glared at Bo Ling, "So Bo Ling, what resentment you have with Xi-Rei?"

Bo Ling posture extraordinaire, lightly laughed, "Bo Jian kingdom located adjacent to Li Kingdom, often subjected to the intimidation of Li Kingdom, for another country declared war on Li Kingdom, of course, would be very good condition for Bo Jian."

Feng Ming snorted again. Today he had fallen into the others' hand, except snorted and angry which he had no other capacity. His hand search behind the belt and found the hidden dagger inside had disappeared and thought, *'I must escape, if the war lasted for two years, Xi-Rei will be destroyed. I'll only regret, if I knew there will be war, would quickly brought out description of several advanced weapons to give to Rong Tian, so that when he wage war it would be favourable battle to him, those tools for industrial agricultural practices could be working on slowly which should not be a problem. Fortunately, those military strategies would be of some help to Rong Tian as he could flexible apply them, and fought Ruo Yan to pieces.'*

Feng Ming absolutely could not sleep that night, laying on the bed and rolled all over, he endured the body pain of soreness and contemplated how to escape.

The door seems calmly and thoroughly silent, but no doubt, that on the outside would heavily guarded, the more he thought about the situation he was in, he blamed how stupid he is, why did he visit the Princess at that time? He thought of the time when Miao Guang deceived and takes

him away, Rong Tian had promptly rescued, his heart felt sweet and warmth. If this were one of Rong Tian's schemes would be best.

Rong Tian currently must undergo through heavy snow and fog on the road for conquest. Ruo Yan was not doing much better; hurt other people so harm themselves as well, in the end the Third princess and Bo Ling used him as bait, now that the war at hand, Ruo Yan did not have Feng Ming, or any hostage in his hand.

His body was still numb for two days; Feng Ming was finally able to endure the numbness of his muscle to finally standing up. In fact, he had constantly drugged for a month by the third princess, not only his body does not work well again, but the drug had damage his internal hence his body had become weaken. After leaved the bed Feng Ming was still dizzy and light-headedness though he supposed he had sleeping too much.

The meal had brought to him for three times a day, there were servants to serve him but the maidservants at this place was too rigid and not cute at all so could never matched to Chiu Lian. The only loving person was Bo Ling's sister who always ran and extremely glad to see Feng Ming.

"Are you talented?"

"What?"

"This place only received those who are talented."

Feng Ming blinked softly, "There a lot of talent people had stayed here before?" he had thought this place was specialist to detain prisoners.

Lin Tan nodded, "Yeah."

"They are here as guests?"

"No." Lin Tan shook her head, "Elder Brother had detained them here."

"They had confined here? So how are they now? "

"They had all gone." Lin Tan giggled, "Only when Elder Brother nodded his head then they released immediately."

Feng Ming stammered in horror, could it be possible that Bo Ling expertise in confined those important figures of the other nations?

Who is this Bo Ling, Feng Ming until now still do not understand. Bo Jian King had three princes: Bo Hu, Bo Yiu and Bo Qin but no one called Bo Ling. Nevertheless, listen to Lin Tan it seems Bo Ling wanted to inherit the kingdom Bo Jian, what the meaning of this?

He frowned for a long and then remembered a memory.

Rong Tian had once told him, Bo Jian king was a womaniser, except for his queen and concubines in the palace, there notes that he had many lovers among the civilians. The three sons of his only inherited from their father flowery languages but no talents, However, Bo Jian king had an illegitimate son among the civilian which brought to Fan Jia for nurturing, was a talented man.

Rong Tian sighed said, "Bo Jian for many years does not have an intelligence King, if that person was birth by the queen might have become a good King. Unfortunately, he was born to a commoner, unable to become a King." When he spoken about this, he harassment Feng Ming so it was reasonable that he only heard some part of the sentence.

However, that person was not called Bo Ling, the name should be Lin Shao.

Feng Ming asked Lin Tan, "Lin Tan, do you know Lin Shao?"

"Of course Lin Shao is Elder Brother."

"Isn't your brother called Bo Ling?"

"Bo Ling is Elder Brother; Lin Shao also is Elder Brother."

"You have two Elder Brother?"

"No, Lin Tan only had one Elder Brother."

He felt everything become more disorderly, Lin Tan caused Feng Ming's mind muddled "Your Elder Brother has two names?"

Finally, Lin Tan quietly be a good girl and replied, "Elder Brother previously name is Lin Shao, currently had changed the name to Bo Ling. The Great King like Elder Brother, so had given Elder Brother new name and proclaims him as his son. Nevertheless, he did not like Lin Tan, so Lin Tan could not change her name."

Feng Ming suddenly understood, *'Bo Jian King must become enlightened that his three children could not matched with Lin Shao intellectual, and then decided to accept Lin Shao as his son which rewarded him the royal family name. However, Lin Tan was just a daughter of Bo Jian King, nothing but a helpless baby girl so she did not need to enter the royal family registry of Bo Jian.'* Feng Ming felt sympathy for her as he stroked the two clips that mounted on her braids and sighed.

Lin Tan black pupils' dilation and spined, looked up at him and asked, "Are you really talented?" She still remembered the earlier question has yet answer.

Feng Ming laughed and shook his head said, "I have no talents at all."

"You tricked me." Lin Tan wrinkled her nose, "Elder Brother said you're extraordinary and very priceless."

"Priceless?"

"Yes, could be sold for plenty of money." Lin Tan acted maturely, serious sat down and gave her analysis, "You see, Li King because you had beared the sacrifice of the royal family Fan Jia with Long Tian, it clearly that he had agreed to trade a nation to capture you. Xi-Rei King because you, subject to arbitrarily declared war. One Duke Ming, could compromise the two greatest intelligent monarchies of this period. Therefore, your value is surely even higher than a kingdom."

What she said a reasonable argument, Feng Ming stammered aghast, had he perhaps encountered a prodigy child? Lin Tan may possibly similar with Miao Guang, at first glance thought to be naive innocence, but she was actual tactical and calculation was superior to other?

Lin Tan saw Feng Ming startled; she laughed and applauded said, "I said correct right? My Elder Brother words are true."

It turns out that she memorized Bo Ling's words, in Feng Ming's heart was little stirred, if this

was the thought of the third princess and Bo Ling, which mean they certainly would not easily let him go.

Indeed, with Feng Ming in their hand, depending on the situation could intimidate the two monarchies. In the end, could use Feng Ming to exchange with Rong Tian and Ruo Yan to negotiate conditions.

If they negotiate with Rong Tian, which should be all right, but exchange with Ruo Yan ... Feng Ming's backside sudden cold and shuddered.

The feeling of being an object for other people to exchange was not pleasant so he decided that he must flee.

Chapter X

Part I

'How do I escape?'

Feng Ming recalled all the action films he had seen through, especially the 007. Although, 007 always escaped with the help of advanced support tools, as this rate, just press three times on the

pen will automatically explode the building to escape, and even have a sports car that is intelligent and stylish to drive away.

However, in a backward world like this, the only consideration worth to be mention was digging tunnels.

Feng Ming quickly understood the use of these cluster floor tiles. This stone seems to be harder than the granite, even if he use all the energy to dig, it should not be possible to make a dent, thin hole---much less a tunnel.

'What a headache.'

Bo Ling and the third princess still frequently visited him. Inside and outside of the mansion guarded by layers of soldiers, food and clothing fully completed fulfilment as a guest rather than a prisoner. Feng Ming did not able to think of any strategy to escape so he had to rely on guessing what happened from external situation by detected his captors' appearance when asked questions.

How was the Great War?

How is Rong Tian?

Just think about those questions made his heart gnawed with fire.

"Duke Ming still very sad, the servants do not serve Your Grace well?" the third princess saw Feng Ming contemplation looks and silent so she softly inquired for his wellbeing.

Feng Ming was angry that she had used his kindness, which in turn harms him, so smiled coldly to her.

On that day Bo Ling was busy only the third princess and Lin Tan had came to visits. The third princess knew Feng Ming was full of resentment for her. After all, Feng Ming had always treated her very well, now he had fallen into this situation, she also felt guilty and ashamed. She sighed as she put the tea bowl down on the table and said, "Duke Ming is not feeling good inside, this I knew. Nevertheless, everyone does have something that they had to do, there is no other way."

The third princess saw Feng Ming did not reply she continued, "Do Duke Ming know that Bo Ling and I knew each other from childhood, but I had married someone else."

Feng Ming had earlier recognised the love between the third princess and Bo Ling. Which is why looking back at the death of An Xun had not caused the third princess any reaction.

Feng Ming remembered An Xun before he died had wanted to be with Queen Lan Lau. He thought this spousal couple surely had never got a changed in the first place, each thought secretly thinking of someone else, and uttered, "*'Fish and bear in hand, impossible to choose both'*", whether Your Highness loved Bo Ling, but would not marry to an illegitimate son, and

finally selected An Xun Xi-Rei Duke. It was the princess choice, why are you sighed and complained?"

The third princess with one phrase from Feng Ming had exposed, faces burning up, shyly said, "Fish and bear in hand, impossible to choose both? Duke Ming truly is knowledgeable than other, therefore, it turned out that nothing in the world would be mutual inclusive. If I had understood this doctrine in early days, would never have come to this situation?"

Although, she was temporary exclamation, but Feng Ming suddenly startled, in dazed he also comprehended something.

This time the third princess arrested him here, thought she said it was for her revenge, yet half of the reason would be for Bo Ling. Otherwise, the princess stayed in Xi-Rei who have the same treatment as the Dowager Queen, why would she need to take risk, even to displease both Rong Tian and Ruo Yan?

She and Bo Ling love story ended because of the status gaps between them, must harboured a grudge regret, but now for Bo Ling that she had sneaky returned to his side. In fact at this time when Bo Jian King had publicly acknowledged Bo Ling as his son status...

Feng Ming frowned for a long time, suddenly arrived the conclusion, take the tea bowl and sipped the liquid leisurely and slowly said, "Bo Ling able to gain his status in Bo Jian royal

family, in the future he have the ability to win the throne, the third princess effort would not be small."

The third princess smiled said, "Duke Ming praised too much, Bo Ling always been wise, the other three princes are no match for him?" In her heart, of course, her lover would be the most wonderful.

These words responded had authentication that fits with his thoughts. Feng Ming laughed, clapping his hand and said, "I do not think Bo Ling suddenly come to Xi-Rei was so simply as a stopover. In this period, the force between Li Kingdom and Xi-Rei are growing, both nations are not very good for Bo Jian situation. Bo Ling must have sworn before Bo Jian Kingm promised that he could spark a rift between the Li Kingdom and Xi-Rei, making both countries declines and damages. That is the exchange conditions, in which subject to Bo Jian King to public acknowledge for his own child."

Feng Ming laughed angrily until his face turned purple, "Your Highness indeed are treacherous, when in Fan Jia had already set up this game. An Xun went to Xi-Rei to take the throne, Ruoyan proposal for marriage, An Ha Prince welcomed Your Highness, Princess had fake interested only in mathematics calculation, but in fact had prepared everything ahead, all this was to find a best position to help Bo Ling to elevate his status. In the end had selected Xi-Rei and the goal is me. *'If not twitter then it is nothing special but when twitter will ensure surprised other'**, when it was the right time then would taken me to escape, inciting the war between Li Kingdom and

Xi-Rei, and give Bo Ling an opportunity enters into the royal family of Bo Jian. Indeed, Yours Highness truly the most frightening person."

His spoken for a while, brought forward his suspicion, concerns which messy in the mind, and rearranged it orderly to present to her. The third princess instantly transfixed.

She had loved Bo Ling for her whole life, from childhood had accepted that Bo Ling of royal rank. Unfortunately for Bo Ling's fate, without any royal family support absolutely cannot marry the third princess.

Bo Ling heart also irritates that though he has royal blood but was not recognise by his father.

She had taken step-by-step, hidden her agenda and quietly helping Bo Ling from behind, at the same time struggled to hide her loves, even to the close maidservant called Fen Yan.

When she thought about the dream that one day for them to be together seems to be impossible and felt intensely anguish every day because of this. Then she received the news of Fan Jia's royal family strategy, almost lifeless and unable to go on living any longer. However, Bo Ling suddenly secretly arrived to Xi-Rei had outlined the strategies, once again her heart was burning of happiness as before.

With the opportunity of kidnapping Feng Ming and trigger the war between Li Kingdom and Xi-Rei, helped Bo Ling to registered into Bo Jian's royal family. Bo Ling leadership of course

definitely have a chance to become a King and she would become the Queen to support his ambition. Moreover, with one arrow to hit the target so there is no better opportunity than this.

Subsequently, although she felt uneasy with Feng Ming, the third princess without hesitation nodded in agreement.

She was not as shameful and despicable as Ruo Yan, after Feng Ming words had exposed her buried secret; inside like wave crashing as unrelenting fear creep on her, the face surfaces changed from pale to red and sudden stood up.

Feng Ming saw her face was agitated, felt afraid and taken a few step backwards, "What do you want?"

The third princess' eyes sparkling with tears, which slightly shaken, swirled and stared deeply into Feng Ming's eyes for a moment, before covered her face and in a flash ran outside the room.

Feng Ming saw her shadow disappeared and murmured, "It turned out I had guessed right."

Lin Tan curiously strode over to Feng Ming side, looking out the window said, "Why did the Third Princess run away? Is she crying?"

Feng Ming sat down said, "Lin Tan, you must not do bad things, or you will find no peace in your conscience."

Lin Tan seems to understand thought though not hundred percent but nodded.

After he guessed the truthful of the events, hence his confidence had increased significantly that he silently praised for his logic thinking, no less than ten times before reorganize and spirited continue contemplated how to escape.

Since he have the background knowledge of the situation, it was not as difficult as he first had thought.

Bo Ling had used the friction between Xi-Rei and Li Kingdom to register into the royal family; Rong Tian waged war because he believes Li Kingdom had captured Feng Ming. If the news Feng Ming held at Bo Jian being leaked, consequently Bo Jian irked the two countries which, mean it was Bo Ling turned to have severe headache. After that, Feng Ming did not need to find a ways to escape because Bo Ling would automatically escorted Feng Ming back to Xi-Rei and ask forgiveness to extinguish Rong Tian's anger.

The third princess's family had killed by Ruo Yan, of course, they will not deliver him to Li Kingdom, and Ruo Yan will be despondent party.

Feng Ming thought for a while and draws the conclusion - the basic of the solution was that he

needs not to escape but only to send message that he currently stayed in Bo Jian and that should be enough.

Compared to plan to escape from the place that strictly guarded, this was much simpler strategy.

"Ha ha ha, it turns out I'm actually extremely intelligent. Rong Tian, this time you will not dare to disparage me anymore." Feng Ming muttered to himself, dancing around, spirited to come up with how to spread the news, "Release the pigeon? This place does not have pigeon. Even if the location were somewhere in the capital of Bo Jian, it seems to be too large and quiet, I have no idea how far away the main road was from this mansion, I doubt scream would heard by anyone. Has someone here secretly send a message? No, this place crawled with those trusted by Bo Ling, if my letter fallen into his hands, hence he surely would put me into a prison cell that would be indeed be miserable."

"Duke Ming, what we will play today?" Lin Tan ran from outside into the room.

Feng Ming eyes flashed, "That's right, Lin Tan could help me."

"Help with what?"

Feng Ming contemplated for a while, as he muttered shook his head muttered, "Not good idea.

Bo Ling dared to let Lin Tan come into this place thus must feel secured and prevented any problem already. He may sat somewhere watched me to play a fool. Hn, I am after all is Duke Ming of Xi-Rei how could I be stupid?"

Lin Tan jerked on Feng Ming sleeves, neck upward asked, "Duke Ming, are we played Rubik cube again today?" In her eyes, Feng Ming was the most talents person who had been detained in this place, he must have many interesting stories and able to create many new games. On the other day Feng Ming drawn out a model of Ribik cube, and Lin Tan had sent people to work on the model and really have fun play it.

"Rubik cube is not really that much of great fun?" Feng Ming though said that but still have yet come up with any idea in his mind. His eyes fell onto the block of Rubik in Lin Tan hands, instantly heart pounding harder and thoughtful.

Feng Ming laughed, squatting down to talk with Lin Tan, "Today we'll not play with Rubik, let us play something else that much more interesting."

Lin Tan in higher spirited, applauded said, "That's great, what do we play now?"

"Something that was interesting is all right." Feng Ming frowned said, "But, we missing a few things."

"What is missing?" Lin Tan's eyes dilate.

"Buffalo leather and wine."

"Buffalo leather and wine? These stuffs are easy to get." tilted the head aside, pretend to be an adult, and ordered, "Anyone there."

A maidservant ran into the room, ceremony said "Princess advised for something?" Lin Tan had always commands other to call her princess, since she was the beloved sister of Bo Ling, so everyone at this place indulged and of course flattered her.

"Bring buffalo leather and wine for me."

Feng Ming interjected, "Bring as much as possible, it will be fun."

Lin Tan repeated to the maidservant, "Bring a lot here, as much as possible."

The maidservant stared at them strangely, "Yes." then back away.

The door of outside yard of Feng Ming's room was patrol by Han Su Wen.

Han Su Wen was Bo Ling confidant, so far have always in charge for the safety of the prisoners that confined here. Although Bo Ling knew that they were careful doing their job, but this time had reminded them, not allows to be carelessness with Feng Ming. Han Su Wen knew this situation was not trivial, everyday watch for twelve hours and not dare to relax, always inspected the guards.

He was preaching the two group of guards which had briefly late for few seconds, suddenly a servant girl shouted in front gate, "Han teacher." She stretching her necks, feet was not dare moved a step away from the gate.

Bo Ling had prevented any news to be leak outside, has order the maidservant not to leave the gate for one-step, and the guards on the outside if no command from him could not enter the courtyard half a foot.

Han Su Wen walked toward the other maidservant, stood at the door asked, "What?"

"Lin Tan said she wants to play something very interesting, and require wine and buffalo leather."

"Buffalo leather and wine!" Han Su Wen frowned and grimaced. Feng Ming status was very important, the third princess strictly ordered not to let him depressed, must be responsive, while

at the same time to ensure that the Feng Ming not stirred up trouble. Han Su Wen received such a task, not to heavy-handed and could not treat him too lightly, which not to make him depressed nor able to loosen up security. Moreover, Bo Ling's precious sister had squeezed into the middle of his job, this surely a headache.

Han Su Wen surprise said, "Buffalo leather and wine, what could possibly be interesting to play? Why oh why, I could not understand why the Fourth Prince allowed Lin Tan Princess to run over here every day to see Duke Ming, what if Duke Ming use the Princess what should we do then?"

The maidservant smiled, "The Third Princess said Duke Ming have very soft heart, no matter what happened never harm Lin Tan Princess. You should give those items to them so they could plays with it. Lin Tan Princess truly a prankster. I wonder what are they use buffalo leather for since wine was to drink of course. Both of these items seems not to be dangerous to be worry about, even Duke Ming made everyone in the sector drunk, but could never escape from the guards that patrolling on the outside. "

Han Su Wen contemplate whether wine and buffalo leathers could cause perils, mused for a moment, then he nodded said, "If it is like that then give it to them."

Whatever needs to be bringing in or out of the sector, each needle, each thread must be go through Han Su Wen examination, even those items that Lin Tan brought, also must be through

the control of Han Su Wen. He just nodded, buffalo leather and wine natural brought to them speedily.

Feng Ming indolent stared at the stack of buffalo leathers and dozen of bottle of wine piled in the middle of the courtyard, smiled and said, "Bo Ling is truly generous, never thought he provided such a vast supply like this."

Lin Tan proudly said, "Naturally, my Elder Brother was most generous. Duke Ming, what do we play here?"

Feng Ming mysterious eyes blinked, "Whatever we play, do not tell the others."

"Yeah, Okay." Lin Tan excited, highly spirited immediately, gesture the hands to chased the servant from the courtyard to go away, "You all should go away, without an authorization, could not leave the prohibited room."

Bo Ling previously confined hostages had used isolation method; the hostage was no different than the owner, if they do not ran away, they could be freely to do anything, nevertheless the outside of the sector was never rested, the internal management was freely style while outside seriously controlled. The maidservant in the sector only there to serve not guarding, of course, do not speak up of the strange request but loudly responded, "Yes." Slightly shrugged, and then one by one leaved the courtyard.

Note:

- Fish and bear in hand, impossible to select both. <A phrase from Meng Zi / Mencius>

"Fish and bear hand" phrase referred to the crossroads of every human being. When there a time that people face two choices.

When this phrase uses for far and high position/ status, for example, the person want a good name and fortune, power of politics but not the liberal freedom and responsibility.

When phrase use for near and close, for example, the person want to read books but also play mah-jong; want to work but thinking of retire and idleness.

- If not twitter, then it is nothing special but when twitter will ensure surprised other

This proverb about a bird living on a mountain in the south, for three years do no twitter/sings nor flying, but then one day it took off soaring into the sky and singing loudly that surprise and make people flabbergasted. This phrase use for those who are talented, normally have unknown reputation, but once shows their talent, which so incredible that amazed other.

Chapter X

Part II

Feng Ming very glad, sat down spoken to Lin Tan, "Quickly let us start, it will be dark soon, waiting till it dark then we can play immediately."

"Good, let's begin."

An adult and a little child squatted down next to each other, engrossed in working with their hands.

When nightfall, in the capital city of Bo Jian –the sky above Peng Ye there was some strange scene occurrence.

There were over ten bizarre objects brightly lighten up and dazzle flying high in the sky, the brilliant lights as if Venus suddenly coming down on earth. Those strange shape objects like the lamp made of buffalo skin did not stop in mid-air but moving and even more flying higher.

"Look!"

"It is a deity coming down to earth!"

"There may be a catastrophe ..."

"No, it's a good omen, the Heaven blessing our Bo Jian!"

"There are words on them!" Some people feared and cried out, "Feng Ming! On the surface there are two words Feng Ming! That must be the deity name! "

The citizens in Peng Ye uproar, they went outside of their house and looked up at the strange scene. There were many children chasing after the spotlight and screams deafeningly throughout the street, and then there were old folks cried and knelt on the ground.

Feng Ming smiled as he watched the Kung Ming lanterns slowly arisen, listened to the constantly of fear after one and another, like rolling waves, transmitted from the east to the west of the city. Each Kung Ming lanterns manifested two words "Feng Ming" flamboyant like a dragon flying and phoenix dancing, certainly must have seen by the citizen who lived in Peng Ye. Soon the

news will spread throughout the south and along the north, with Rong Tian's intelligent, will understand his implication in this plan.

Lin Tan did not know that she had destroyed her elder brother plot, standing on one side cheered, "It is flying up! It's flying! "

Han Su Wen had faithfully served at his station, had never able to guess one of the greatest lovely invention of Kung Ming teacher, a Chinese military strategist come up the idea that wine not only used for drinking but also used as fuel in formulated hot air.

"Fire! Shoot them all down!" All the guards stood dumbfounded as they eyes glazed on the miracle objects that appear inside the sector, Han Su Wen the first to response, shouted for the guards to shooting down Kung Ming's lantern.

The guards affected by the strange situation that they had not seen before hence too fearful to react, apprehensively drawn the bows, in which they unable to aim accurate as usual, there even a man who too stressful had accident shot his neighbour, caused the other guard injured. The only person still in his right mind was Han Su Wen who swiftly shot four sky lanterns down.

Unfortunately, it was too late; Kung Ming lanterns had caused uproar by the citizen and the two words Feng Ming had leaked out.

When the sky slightly pink, Xi-Rei Duke Ming name, like spring thunder reverberates throughout Bo Jian kingdom.

That was something that Bo Ling and the third princess did not thought of achievable.

There were disturbances throughout the night on the outside but Feng Ming stubbornly sat inside the room and laughed until his intestinal contracted. Now the table turn, it time for Bo Ling to the music; let see how he will cope with Ruo Yan and Rong Tian.

Daybreak of the next day, Bo Ling alone came to see him.

He was still dress in blue colour, there was lightly curved on his lips smiling, his gentle demeanour still carefree, not fretful as Feng Ming had imagined. When Bo Ling entered the room, his hands clasped and said happily with Feng Ming, "This place had stayed by many important guests, though only Duke Ming was the first to pass the information out. Those lanterns made from buffalo leathers how could it flying without falling down?"

Feng Ming of course would never inform the law principle to Bo Ling but quietly laughed, "Fourth Prince able to shows carefree attitudes at this moment, I am truly admired."

"Oh," Bo Ling waving his sleeve, slowly sat down, "Upon my honour, last night suddenly heard the citizen in the city uproar, I had rushed out during dining, suddenly saw up in the air flickering splashy of Feng Ming in ten large letters, almost scared Bo Ling to death. Bo Jian a smaller humble country, to be displeased both Li Kingdom and Xi-Rei, felt that disaster going to happen soon."

Feng Ming glared at Bo Ling and made assessment, saw that his mental state was composed, thus doubts as he asked, "I don't see you even a bit worried about disaster which is coming."

Bo Ling laughed a few times and whispered, "Why should I be worry? Disaster and fortune do interweave, that day when I had risked in kidnapped Duke Ming also had prepared how to deal with this situation if arisen. Of course...Duke Ming still good in staying here."

Feng Ming suddenly found a cold air inside and shuddered, "what your words mean?"

"Since I had Duke Ming living here as a guest, which mean Bo Ling position is unbeaten." Bo Ling sat straight up and honest replied, "Currently, there are two monarchs: Li King and Xi-Rei King want to seize Duke Ming, Bo Ling only required to pick one of them, what so hard to decide? "

"Between Xi-Rei and Li Kingdom pick one side?" Feng Ming slightly shocks; his pupils stirred

and instant laughed mockingly "If you give me to Ruo Yan, how would you speaking to the third princess? And how will you response to Rong Tian?" His fists clenched and thoughtful, *'Hn, am I so stupid to leave it up to you to make decision which side you'll give me.'*

Bo Ling shook his head, "It is not end of the road, and I certainly will not give Duke Ming to Ruo Yan. The news of Duke Ming staying here will quickly spread throughout the world; we could no longer watch the spectacle battle between Xi-Rei and Li Kingdom, Rong Tian of course will ask for you. Until Rong Tian agreed with my three conditions that I would then respectfully give Duke Ming back. "

"Three conditions?"

"First, Xi-Rei agrees to protect Bo Jian from Li Kingdom invasion, when Li Kingdom declared war with Bo Jian, Xi-Rei immediately dispatched soldiers to raid the Li Kingdom borders. Li Kingdom and Xi-Rei had never been diplomat friendliness; this condition for Xi-Rei is not difficult. Second, Xi-Rei must sign a treaty with Bo Jian, never invade Bo Jian even a tree nor a grass. Third, Xi-Rei King helps me to ascend the throne Bo Jian. "

Feng Ming awakened suddenly and nodded "The third condition is most important."

Bo Ling seems unembarrassed and blatantly said, "A man motivation should conquer the world.

Plead Duke Ming to write a letter, informed Xi-Rei King that you are well and there are three conditions attached for Your Grace release."

"What if I do not write the letter?" Feng Ming snorted, "Are you going to kill me?"

Bo Ling shook his head, "Duke Ming Xi-Rei had always protected the Third Princess, Bo Ling extremely grateful, how could I kill you? Write the letter I'll treat you as honoured guest, not write the letter you'll seen as a hostage, written or not only influence Duke Ming outcome but it does not affected me. As long as Duke Ming in the hands, Xi-Rei King will, certainty meets all conditions."

Feng Ming narrowed his eyes, "If Rong Tian do not agreed, what then?"

Bo Ling calmly replied, "If so, I've to give Duke Ming to Ruo Yan then. His blood vowed still intact with the Third Princess, Duke Ming could exchange for ten years of peace for Fan Jia and the head of Long Tian, this pen and paper appears to be unnecessary."

Feng Ming distraught but constrained, throat grunted a few times and mumbles said, "Fine, I write." *'Wait until I escaped this place, disappeared without news, see what you'll use for exchange with Rong Tian.'*

The inkpot brought up as Feng Ming quickly written the letter flowingly:

Rong Tian,

This time you has no strategy, completely deceived by another and chased your own tail. I am not in Li Kingdom but Peng Ye the capital city of Bo Jian, Bo Ling requested three conditions for my release, you must agree, otherwise I'll flung aside to Ruo Yan.

Remember, do not wage war everywhere, whether I really in Li Kingdom you must not take liberally of sending troops.

I slightly missed you. Oh yeah, not allowed reprimand Rong Hu and Lie-er, they must remained in good health, on my behalf please pay respect to the Dowager Queen for me and send my regards to Chiu Lian's group.

Feng Ming.

Bo Ling saw the other man highly spirited wrote the letter and stood aside smiled, shook his head.

Feng Ming threw the pen aside, tilted their heads said, "The letter had written, you could take it away."

"Thanking Duke Ming." Bo Ling placed the letter in his chest, softly clapped, though it risen above the silences and echoing in the room.

Immediately, there was about five or six pretty girls gracefully strode into the room, holding copper trays, on the trays content all sorts of colourful ornaments costumes and a sword.

Bo Ling smiled and said, "Duke Ming official stayed in Bo Jian, how could you not attend the King reception? Plead Duke Ming to change garments and together enter the palace to make an audience with my Royal Father. The welcome banquet fully prepared already."

"Enter the palace?" Feng Ming eyes looked daze over the glittering clothes before him.

The maidservants spoken up, "We, servants will help Duke Ming to change clothes." The servants each doing different tasks: hold the items, took off his outer clothes, change his clothes, tie his belt, put on a hat, put on shoes, wear a sword, for a few moment Feng Ming had changed completely into another person.

When they finished the tasks the women gracefully leaved, Bo Ling slightly smile as he handed over an object, "This object returns to Duke Ming." It was the dagger that Feng Ming had always concealed in the belt; Rong Tian had given the dagger given to him for protection but was removed by the third princess when he unconscious.

Suddenly saw his dagger, the memory of smiling Rong Tian face on that day appeared. The happy day breathe was like spring breeze stroked the face, now they are thousands of mountains and waters apart.

Bo Ling understands his heart, "Duke Ming will be very quickly return to Xi-Rei, no need to see an object and lovesick?" The words Bo Ling heard from the third princess, which had once spoken by Feng Ming, could not help but felt admiration for his profound language.

From the door suddenly someone speak impatiently "Duke Ming survival and return to Xi-Rei still not guarantee." The curtain pulled up as the third princess stepped into the room, "I am specially come here intended together with you to enter the palace."

"Your Highness, what do you mean by not guarantee my survival back to Xi-Rei..."

The third princess indifferent said, "Although, Duke Ming had brilliantly delivered the new out, nevertheless, do you not know that it also increases the danger for yourself. Now everyone in the world knows Duke Ming alone staying in Bo Jian, the attention we needs to look after your safety have become much more difficult, a hundred thousand times worsen. Do not talks about Ruo Yan of Li Kingdom, even in the palace of Bo Jian, there still others who had ill will, wanted Duke Ming like a tiger hunger for its prey? "

"Bo Jian's palace?"

"Duke Ming please thinks a bit, if something happened to Duke Ming in the territory of Bo Jian, who would be the happiest person?"

Feng Ming steal a glanced at Bo Ling, *'the most unfortunate person of course will be Bo Ling, don't bother to think about another person, just Rong Tian alone would devouring him.'*

However, his eyes glowed said, "The happiest people must be the three other princes of Bo Jian."

After replied to the question, he instantly feels the pounding headache.

'Why am I involved in this competition for Bo Jian throne, so many disasters strike at once.' If this were the case, his life would be forfeit anywhere in Bo Jian, now he could not think of a way to escape but have to rely on Bo Ling protection before Rong Tian arrived.

Feng Ming mused in for few seconds and complained, "The Third Princess extremely terrifying, only few words that made me think twice about run away."

The third princess and Bo Ling looked at each other and smiled, then turned the head said, "Duke Ming please do not grumble, your fame have travelled for many miles, everyone knows. The

King and the other princes were waiting for Your Grace at the palace, plead Duke Ming for departure. "

The three people leaved the door and already the guards had gathered outside the sector.

Bo Ling stood beside Feng Ming whispered, "The palace is dangerous, Duke Ming remember do not take half a step away from me."

Feng Ming knew his like a fish placed on a cutting board, evermore, there were many fatty fishes to large fishes wanted to execute him, obediently nodded, climbed on the carriage with Bo Ling.

Note:





Kung Ming Lantern which invented by Kung Ming one of strategist genius recorded in China history. During the Three Kingdoms period, Confucianism Ming lanterns used to send messages in his army. Lantern has become an important discovery during this era and has brought a great victory for the army Kung Ming. The sky lantern could fly a thousand feet up and distance about 5-10 km.

Chapter XI

Part I

The carriage driver stopped in front of the palace.

Although Bo Jian's economy had weakened for recent years, but the palace was magnificent

over thousands times better than Xi-Rei, the two side walls of the main gate coloured red was longer stretches than the eyesight, below the road was smooth.

Feng Ming thought, *'Bo Jian like Rong Tian had described, too materialist and wasted resources which not very good for practical. Bo Jian King does not care about govern the country only how to restore the palace, a country like this of course led to perish and decay?'*

Bo Ling stepped down the carriage at the same time with Feng Ming, eyes turned to the majestic palace, but uttered a sigh, "Every time I saw the palace, I felt nothing."

Feng Ming glanced at Bo Ling, thoughtful, *'You're the child of the King, of course been grown up with commoner have no feeling inside for this place. But, now after the long years waiting you finally see the clouds part and saw the moonlight *, finally legitimate become a prince.'*

Bo Ling eyes stopped before Bo Jian's flag that flapped to meet the wind on the wall, slowly said, "Duke Ming must heard, Bo Jian palace have to repair every year, the building and stories inside, the beautiful landscape setting known to be the most brilliant of the eleven countries. Nonetheless, the problems of civilian had never once heard inside this unparalleled splendour palace."

Feng Ming felt a little surprised; it was unbelievable that Bo Ling was truly caring for his people and a patriot man.

Bo Ling turned around, laughed sadly, "Duke Ming must be extremely wary of Bo Ling, of course it understandable since Bo Ling truly eyeing for the throne. I want the throne of Bo Jian that will employ any despicable tricks to get it. Since I had grown up with the civilians, I felt that if my brothers to inherit the throne the people will suffers more. When I ascend the throne, the first decree was never restored the palace, noble and inner palaces, the whole country from noblemen and commoners must be dressed economical and spend more time and effort together to work on practical common good for everyone."

Feng Ming shook his head replied, "Nonetheless the costume in which the Fourth Prince wearing is unparalleled luxury, to control other must able to control oneself first, want to economical must start initial with yourself."

"Duke Ming still doesn't know much, Father King said that modest clothing is not for nobleman, so I had to follow like a sheep. Wait until you enter the palace you will understand immediately."

The third princess has also finally caught up with them "Quickly, we must go inside the palace, could not let the King wait too long."

Feng Ming turned back and gasped, "When Your Highness did changed costume?"

The Third princess usually only wear white garments daily, does not like makeup, but now changed into a gown with multi-coloured, on the head and hand wore all kinds of flashy jewellery, as least no less than dozen of bracelets.

"To meet Bo Jian King, of course, need to dress up for a bit."

The guard that welcome them at the gate and saluted the three of them before repeated the command, "The King has come to the Palace Hall, plead Duke Ming, the third princess and the fourth prince enter inside the palace."

Bo Ling nodded and led the third princess and Feng Ming to go in.

The palace scenery truly the best in the world, each building carefully built.

Feng Ming followed Bo Ling and enter the inner palace, the main hall was very high and sat straight at the centre of the chamber was a middle-aged man wear a king's crown, behind him are two lines of women dressed very colourful.

Bo Ling came inside the chamber already knelt down in high voice, "Bo Ling greeting Father King."

"Bo Ling stand up, behind you must be the famous Duke Ming of Xi-Rei?"

"Father King, this is Duke Ming who had travelled long distances to come here."

"Greeting Bo Jian King." Feng Ming clasped his hands for ceremony and assessed the supreme leader of Bo Jian.

Bo Jian King estimated about forty-year-old, fine appearance and straight nose, the contour looks of royal line, the pair of dragon embroidered on the coat seems to be lifelike, white clouds floating below, out of his ten fingers nine of them wore rings, it was clearly he someone who likes to dress very flashy. Feng Ming thought since the king was impotence in dealing with country matter so he must be an old obese man and slow as a nail but now upon seen him in a form of a handsome middle-aged men, no wonder able have a handsome son as Bo Ling.

Behind him, the two rows of beautiful women, probably the beauties of the palace, they were diverse in prettiness and clothes very flowery.

The middle of chamber arranged two row of tables and except the top three positions, other places had filled by people. On one side the first three seats sat three men hence must be the King's son, the other princes - Bo Hu, Bo Yiu and Bo Qin.

"Duke Ming appearance indeed is extraordinary." During his evaluation of Bo Jian King, the other man also stared at him, in the King's eyes were full of praised, nodded said, "The banquets have been prepared, please sit down."

Feng Ming stooped and said, "Thank you, Great King." And with Bo Ling sat down.

The banquets official started, fine wine and luxury food provided by the maidservants, two rows of lovely dancers gliding inside the chamber, gentle music played at the background.

Instantly singing has rings everywhere inside the room.

As he enjoyed the banquet, Bo Jian King had lifted his cup, softly laughing with Feng Ming, "I want to drink with Duke Ming three cups."

"I do not deserve it, do not dare to take, in fact I ..." Feng Ming knew he easily get drunk, and he currently surrounded by danger, of course, it best not to be drunken at this stage.

Before he could skilfully refuse, Bo Jian King had finished drinking a cup, "The first cup, cheers on your unparalleled strategies, able to escape the claws of Li Kingdom and to make friend with us, on behalf of Xi-Rei to form diplomatic relationship with Bo Jian, and together work for a better future. Vows that Xi-Rei and Bo Jian, our two countries permanently friends. Ah, Duke Ming, why are you toasting?"

What the crap about escaped from the claws of Li Kingdom, with Bo Jian form diplomatic friendship which all nonsense in one speech. However, now that he was alone so unable clearly define with Bo Jian King so Feng Ming did not bother to contradict.

Moreover, the most powerful enemy of Xi-Rei was Li Kingdom, if truly become Bo Jian ally, able to depend and face to face combine strength to pressure and attacked Li Kingdom.

Firstly this cup for diplomatic friendship and secondly, he did not wanted Bo Jian King to lose face so Feng Ming stop resisted, just drink the cup as if '*to hit a snake depend on the cane**', "Thanks Great King, prays that Xi-Rei and Bo Jian will forever friends. " Tilted his head, and swallowed all the wine.

"The second cup cheers for Duke Ming good heart, when there was danger had helped and taken in the third princess of Fan Jia, matchmaking with my son Bo Ling, truly a great romance." Bo Jian King lifted another cup.

Feng Ming thought, *'what so good about kind-hearted, goodwill never returned, nearly was sold by Her Highness. No, the whole situation means she already had sold me.'*

"Duke Ming..." Beside him, there someone softly has shaken his sleeve.

Feng Ming turned, the third princess hands were lifting a cup full of wine, she whispered and the words were hidden beneath the singing voice in the background that only both of them could hear, "I accepted with Duke Ming that I am at fault, this time made Duke Ming to face danger, plead Duke Ming for forgiveness."

Her eyes implored and the posture was pitiful. Feng Ming thought of being suffering for her whole life, even though deeper schemes but was reluctant done, so his heart softens. When his eyes darted around and found that everyone focuses on him, if he did not drink this cup, the third princess, Bo Ling and Bo Jian King would find it difficult to retreat.

Feng Ming laughed bitterly, "If I do not accept this cup of wine from Bo Jian King, would he brought me outside to behead?" he groaned a little, took the cup of wine, tilted and drank, whispered, "The Third Princess calculation for every directions, and knew too well how forgiving my heart is. "

The third princess looked at Feng Ming grateful.

"Great, Duke Ming indeed forthright." Bo Jian King laughed, holding the third cup, "Thirdly, cheers for Duke Ming great knowledge, ten words of Feng Ming soaring on the sky of Peng Ye that made everyone fear and respect for Your Grace. Duke Ming only seventeen years old and have yet decreased in being playful."

Bo Jian King truly played well, only three small cups of wine able hidden and denied any facts involvement that Feng Ming captured by Bo Ling before his officials and the world. The kidnapping of Feng Ming become an escape from the claws Li Kingdom, later agreed to visit Bo Ling his good friends on the way home, then Kung Ming lantern, for SOS of Feng Ming now become a game for fun.

Since he had already drank the other two cup, only this last cup left. Feng Ming simply thrown away his anxiety, smiled and said, "Only little skilled, Bo Jian King has laughed of me now." Tilted his head sipped the wine, thoughtful, *'continue like this Rong Tian could not made Bo Jian accountability anymore. Well it not a bad thing really, since it not the right time for Xi-Rei to wage war.'*

After the three cups, the initial heavy atmosphere instantly evaporate become friendlier and people seemed enthusiastic as everyone wanted to drink a cup of wine with Feng Ming.

Feng Ming wine tolerant was very poor, after drank three cups his face was flushed, Bo Ling sat beside him had help to stop the appeal of further intake.

It was very hard to block the high officials, the man sat across in which facing Feng Ming suddenly stood up, raise a cup of wine in front of him and laughed, "I heard Duke Ming handsome incomparable, now see with own eyes, reputation indeed correct. Bo Hu would like to drink three cups with Duke Ming. "

Feng Ming's eyes glazed, he did not know that in Bo Jian had long been influence by the interests of Bo Jian King, which formed into habit that in front of crowds to praise someone beautiful in appearance was the highest form of honour.

Bo Ling on one side smiled and said, "Elder Brother, Duke Ming body unwell today, let your younger brother on his behalf..."

Bo Hu's scowled Bo Ling, sneered, "I am praised Duke Ming's beauty, Fourth Brother you are not jealous right?" when the speech finished, and immediately show hostility.

Bo Ling smiled, glanced at Feng Ming as if said he had done his best, and then silence sat there after that.

Feng Ming silently sighed, *'their attitudes only take a few seconds to know who win, if I am Bo Jian King of course will definitely chosen Bo Ling to inherit the kingdom.'*

"Duke Ming, Bo Hu will drink first to pay Your Grace respects." Bo Hu's head back and bottom up "Please Duke Ming quickly drinks." He intoxicated about three quarters, when inserted the cup of wine into Feng Ming's hand he blatantly fumbled him.

Feng Ming's heart pound faster instantly, *'Bastard, dare to tease Duke Ming of Xi-Rei in front of everyone, if Rong Tian knew he would definitely butchered and dismembered you up.'* He was initially about to accept the cup but seeing that Bo Hu used the situation in which made him discomforted, become very angry inside, nevertheless, Bo Hu still was a prince of Bo Jian, he have to be a bit courteous in handling this matter.

Feng Ming contemplate for while then he sudden smiled with Bo Hu, put down the cup of wine, "By merely drinking alone is not interesting, how about play a game to enjoy pastimes, as well reward wine?"

The third princess interjected to help, said happily, "Duke Ming more educative than other, he have plenty of new ideas, if suggested to play game of course must be very exciting."

Bo Jian King had heard of Feng Ming talents; still doubt thus in his curiosity to confirm the

reputation so he waving his hand to signals the group of dancers and singers to leaving the chamber "Bo Hu temporary go back to your seat, the three cups of wine would have to wait for later to pay respect Duke Ming. What Duke Ming wishes to play in regard to reward wine?"

"Using questions to reward wine, I asked and someone answer, if that person reply wrong then will be penalizing with a cup of wine. How this? "

The second prince Bo Yiu sat beside Bo Hu shook his head said, "If Duke Ming using problems to reward wine, in this room only Duke Ming and the Third Princess are master in mathematics in calculation, wouldn't this be boring?"

Feng Ming had initially anticipated of using a hard topic that no one knew how to answer so he could be surely take a win, but Bo Yiu had exposed his plans, embarrassed smile and shrugged his shoulders said, "So let's the Second Prince set the rule then."

Bo Ling's eyes suddenly brightened up, his hands clasped before Bo Jian King said, "Father King, Duke Ming had numerous talents, how about we asked Duke Ming explained problem with old stories. If his words are good then everyone each drinks a cup, if not His Grace penalty to take one."

Storytelling is the forte of Feng Ming, he immediately nodded in agreement and said, "That's good idea. Let talked about old stories."

If they had wanted, hear old stories then would invite minstrel to do so as this was nothing new.

The people seems to agree to this proposal was Feng Ming's group. Bo Jian King did not want to cut off Feng Ming's enthusiastic, also nodded smiled and said, "So let Duke Ming tell us a couple of old stories for us." As he already said the words, the three princes could not able to protest.

Bo Ling smiled and said, "Bo Ling have a proposal, first we will speak what topic we would want to hear then Duke Ming will narrating a story in which related to it."

Note:

Translation on a Poem that use in above chapter

The deities' footsteps hard to find, love is like a dream.

Grass pursue with the wind, leaves lean on the wind

A heart waiting, a love for a lifetime

Wait for the cloud part and to see the moonlight

The last line is a proverb, which could not trace the earliest origins, so the author has used this poem as way to explain.

This proverb mean that a talents person must have a patient to wait for the clouds to part before they could see the moon/sun, to encourage people to have endurance till the end.

- To hit a snake depend on the cane

This sentence not recorded by any famous people, but a dialogue the folklore taught how to hit a snake at **Linh Nam** region. The south has many diseases and harmful organisms, such as poisonous snakes and rodents. Therefore, it made difference to use bamboo stick or hard cane.

The snakes often wrapped around the hard object, if the cane flashed down and not hit the snake weaknesses point it could then it could twist the body and bite back the person. Therefore, the people there do not use a cane but bamboo whips to hit the snake.

This expression implies people should look for opportunity, upon the time of each situation and do what best to achieve greatest benefits. In this case, the person using manipulative tactics to wriggle out of being counter-attack in which the opponents feel hard to find a way to resolve.

博間王

博間的大王，對國家治理並無才能的君王，份外喜歡享受，癡迷於美麗的東西，並且覺得自己是天下最美的人。



博陵



博間王的私生子，因為母親身份卑微，出生後無法得到博間王族承認，屈辱的長大，並和繁佳三公主相戀。博陵是博間王眾子中最有才華和大志的人，氣質出眾，行為果斷，但不受父王承認和親眼看著心愛女人被迫嫁給他人的痛苦，使他心靈變得扭曲。在和繁芝暗中謀劃綁架鳳鳴，而且差點挑起離國西雷兩國大戰後，博陵迫使博間王族正視他的存在，最終成為名正言順的王子，擁有競逐博間王位的資格。

Bo Jian King (top); Bo Ling (Bo Mound/ Hill) (below)

Chapter XI

Part II

"No problem." Feng Ming agreed immediately.

Bo Jian King said, "Duke Ming could begin storytelling about clothes." All his life the King interested only in fashion and grooming, likes to dress up so it was no surprisingly that he also want to hear story on this topic.

"Okay." Feng Ming nodded, "This story happened once upon a time. There was a king, he love to wear magnificent costumes..." He fluently retold "The Emperor's new clothes " without any interruption.

This piece was well known in modern times and often use as compulsory for school lessons.

When the story come to the end where the Emperor ran away when he discovered he was naked, Bo Jian King's face turned awkward in dilemma.

Feng Ming turned around when he completed and saw the praise in Bo Ling's eyes so he quietly smiled.

Everyone in the chamber knew the morality of the story was concerns the King but too afraid it affect his dignity that they kept their mouths silence.

Suddenly from the other side someone giggled, "I can't believe there such a ridiculous story like that, ha ha, Duke Ming indeed have many interesting stories. The plot is very good; I'll drink a cup for this Duke Ming."

It was unbelievable that someone dare said those words, everyone eyes sneaking a glance to search for who it was --- is the Third Prince, Bo Qin who Bo Jian King loved the most.

Bo Qin characteristic was carefree and his speeches are straightforward, and the least ambitious prince, while Bo Ling crowd tried hard to think a way to gain the kingdom, he was deliberately busy tried to ruin his chance to become a King, he even taken steps to tarnish his reputations of indulging in sex.

Nonetheless, he was the only child of the Queen, his status higher than the other princes were; Bo Jian King extremely favoured him. With a situation like that, even if he did not wish to engage in the struggle for the throne, he could not find an easy way out.

Bo Qin bottom up then said, "Plead Duke Ming to continue."

Feng Ming saw the other man support him instantly friendliness arose, smiling asked, "What the Third Prince would like to hear?"

"There always are problems, why need to be specific? In the world there many tale of oppressed people is that not enough already?"

In his speech full of discontent, Feng Ming looked closer at Bo Qin.

Bo Qin estimate about twenty years old, his face take after his mother not manly charm like this father and brothers, whereas his mildness seems to be more feminine hence it illustrated that there nothing about him was phony but natural openness character in which reminded Feng Ming of Lie-er who still in Xi-Rei far away.

He stared at Bo Qin eyes and smiles, "Have the Third Prince heard about an old story called * Zhuang Zhou's dream?"

Bo Qin drank another cup and whispered, "Dream story? The names itself sound nice, plead Duke Ming to storytelling this piece."

"Zhuang Zhou was an extremely clever man with many talents. One day he had a dream, in his

dream he turned into a butterfly, flying with the wind, extremely comfortable. At that moment, he completely forgot about who he is. When he awake, he was suspicious that if he, himself was the human Zhuang Zhou. He had even thought; if Zhuang Zhou had dream into a butterfly, or a butterfly dream into Zhuang Zhou?"

Bo Hu grimace said, "That guy is stupid, of course he was the human, how could he be a butterfly? There is no sense this story; Duke Ming should drink a cup as self-punishment."

Bo Ling and the third princess were pensive and silence for they still contemplate the deeper hidden message inside.

Sudden there light shone in Bo Qin eyes, for some time later he breath relieved and sighed, slowly said, "Human life like a dream, all they need to do was to live a life with carefree and happy heart, whether he a human or a butterfly there is no different?"

Feng Ming nodded, "That is correct, a human have their own pleasure, butterfly have their own delight, why should a person compare between themselves with another?"

Bo Qin always misery because his mother forced him to compete for the throne, upon heard Feng Ming's statement, like someone hit a stick on the head, astonished said, "A human have their own pleasure and butterfly have their own preference." In his thought, *'since beginning I never have temperament of a King; why should I dispute with my brothers over the position?*

Whether I won the throne, I would not be happy. Just like the butterfly change into a human, how the butterfly without wings could be happy?’

His temperament also unruly, now the matter that for a long time had deeply embedded inside had resolved. It was like taken a heavy load off his shoulder thus felt immense relieved, immediately laughed loudly, lifting up the cup with Feng Ming, in the heart filled with admiration and said "Duke Ming wisdom are truly profound, Bo Qin in awed of Your Grace." Instant drinking three cups at once, the fling it down on the ground. The cup hit the black brick floors, creating a clear sound.

Bo Qin stood straight up, went to the centre of the chamber, knelt before Bo Jian king said proudly, "Bo Qin would like to request Father King for an agreement."

Bo Jian King deeply loved for the son who born by his Queen, always headache about his disruptions, who have no desire to be a King, this was first time saw Bo Qin sudden fearlessness, Bo Jian King said happily, "Bo Qin, what do you need from your Father King?"

Bo Qin raised his head, stared at Bo Jian King for a second before leisurely slowly said each word, "Bo Qin request Father King, to entitle Bo Ling as the Crown Prince."

All the princes' ages were approximately close to each other thus Bo Jian King had never entitled anyone of them as the crown prince. However, recently Bo Ling who remarkable talents

above the other princes had titled the fourth prince, which made the problem and the topic even more taboo to be, discusses among the officials. If look for talents then Bo Ling would be the first in line for the throne but if look at the bloodline and one in which favour by the King, of course it would have to be Bo Qin.

It was unexpected that before the officials and courtiers that Bo Qin have requested with Bo Jian King for Bo Ling to be the Crown Prince.

When his speech finished, the chamber was tumultuous uproar, Bo Hu and Bo Yiu dropped the cups on their hands and stood up.

Bo Ling's eyes suddenly flashing which seemly excited. Bo Qin letting go in pursue of the throne of course good news, Bo Hu and Bo Yiu otherwise never had the chance of competed, why should they not be happy?

Bo Jian King stunned, said coldly, "Bo Qin, what nonsense are you just prattle?"

Bo Qin fearlessly as his head back up looked straight at Bo Jian King, "Bo Ling strategies has excel above all among my brothers and I. His spirit is outstanding and loved by the people. Bo Ling's wishes for Bo Jian to be prospered, since he returned to the family had have devoted his time to strengthen the country, and the citizens loves him. Plead Father King do not look upon

his origin bloodline but for Bo Jian kingdom and entitle Bo Ling as the Crown Prince. In my case ...Father King, Bo Qin born lazy thus only disappointed Father King."

When Bo Hu and Bo Yiu stood beside him heard Bo Qin had stood up for Bo Ling, their faces darken and gloomy.

Bo Ling of course did not miss the opportunity to express him as he acted, knelt down beside Bo Qin moan said, "Bo Ling dared not to accept this goodwill. Plead Father King to entitle the Third Prince as the Crown Prince; Bo Ling wholeheartedly would support the Third Royal Brother, so that Bo Jian would prosper and strengthen in military power, so that we will not be humiliate in the hand of foreigners. "

The great changes happened suddenly in which Feng Ming absolutely had no idea that he who was the catalyst, stirred the ripple; stood on one side and silent, observed the interesting game that had occurred before him.

The other brothers, Bo Hu and Bo Yiu, of course would not be leave behind in this struggled for power, looked at each other, and then went over the middle of chamber, knelt down beside Bo Qin and Bo Ling.

Bo Hu loudly shrieked, "Plead Father King for thousands times do not listened to Bo Ling's tricks and his manipulation, his effort was not sufficient proved that he could address and handling the kingdom matters. The Crown Prince status set up as the basic roots of the country, please Father King's think twice. "

"His origin ignoble lowly commoner, how could he climb up to the King position?" Bo Yiu turned his head and aggressive glared at Bo Ling, showing despise said, "The Crown Prince represents for a country, if to allow a commoner to assume the throne would be like children's joke."

Bo Yiu finished his speech caused Bo Ling's face ashen. Even Bo Qin knew Bo Yiu had went overboard, tried to save the situation, "Second Royal Brother, Bo Ling is also a prince of Bo Jian, the son of Father King how could he be of humble birth?"

Bo Hu stood one side burning with indignation as he inserted, "In him, the second half was commoner blood, for him to be a prince, was too good for the like of him."

Bo Ling countered, "Eldest Royal Brother, we are blood brothers; I am full of respect for you, why are you always willing to threaten me?"

"Hmm, how dare you to think that you equal to be my brother? Lowly man!"

The princes argued with each other at the centre of chamber become louder and vociferous.

Although, the rest of the chamber was silence as no one dared to speak out. Bo Jian King sat quietly on the throne, but his eyebrows started to straighten up.

"I already knew you are ambitious unmeasured."

"Second Royal Brother, your words are always full resentful to others."

"If you were not ambitious for the throne like hunger tiger for a prey, then would not come to Bo Jian and went around gave out the food, bribed the commoners?"

"This year there is food shortages, famine..."

Bo Hu interrupted Bo Ling's speech, snorted and coldly said, "People hungry? Are you implied the King had misconduct which result people starving?"

"Bo Ling absolutely had no such intention."

"Silent!" Suddenly a voice rang out in clearness that made everyone jumped.

Bo Jian King blue face was extremely angry, his cold eyes scanned around his children below the throne, he had been a King for many years, and his eyes were truly sharp, wherever its stop, his sons blushed with embarrassment, veins pops on the neck as they lower their heads.

Since Bo Jian King extremely angry, the whole chamber immediately silent. He looked once again at his four children then the deeply sighed and said quietly, "My subjects hear my decree."

The sentence although was short but everyone felt a slight jolt inside. Everyone knew the most important issue of Bo Jian at this moment will be determined, therefore officials instantly kowtows, neatly in a row, waiting silence for the royal decree.

Feng Ming saw everyone knelt even the third princess also obediently knelt down on one side, and then he thought, *'why should I need to kneel? This is Bo Jian internal matter, no need to involve with their problems.'* Therefore, he gently stood up to the side and watched the situation develop.

Bo Jian King taciturn for a very long time, until he saw his sons who attentive before the throne was dense with cold sweat then at last said, "Bo Ling has acknowledge as my child, thus he is the prince of Bo Jian which mean he also have the capacity to inherit the kingdom."

This word clearly defended Bo Ling, therefore Bo Hu and Bo Yiu heads suddenly lifted up quickly and look horrified at Bo Jian King.

Bo Jian King suddenly stopped, hesitated for a moment then continues, "I have four children, the eldest have no brainpower, the second child no valour, the third child birth by the Queen, although intelligent but have no interest in the country politics."

Bo Ling heard his Father King assessment of the other royals' brothers; felt that the words implies that he was the most suitable to be the Crown Prince, happiness swell inside, finally his eyes see the answer, heartbeat beating faster.

Bo Jian King took a deep breath, called "Bo Ling."

"Father King, Bo Ling here!" Bo Ling heart skip a beat, moved up a step, speak respectfully asked, "What Father King counsel?"

"Father King knew you are having high goals also talent and educative. If you able do three things within half a year then you shall be the Crown Prince of Bo Jian."

"Father King" Bo Hu rushed forward, kneels and crawling in front, bow his head said, "Father king please think again, plead Father King to think again."

Bo Yiu also added, "Chosen a Crown Prince is very important, pleads Father King to think again."

Bo Jian King smiled, "You scared that I partly favour? Well, among the four princes, who could do these three things in half a year, he would become Crown Prince of Bo Jian. "

Bo Ling radiant eyes glittered as he raises his voice, "Could I ask Father King what those three things are?"

Feng Ming also attentive listens. What are the three things that Bo Jian King request for his son to do to select as the crown prince? Is one of them asking to conquer Li Kingdom?

Bo Jian King said, "First, I want to have the most beautiful scenery in the world to put at the centre of royal palace. Second, I want a fine portrait of the most beautiful male in the world, hanging in inner palace. Third, I want to have a reception, a banquet and drinking with the most beautiful woman in the world here at the palace hall. Who could do these things in half a year would be the Crown Prince of Bo Jian." After he said the three requirements, Bo Jian king laughed, "That are the three wishes of mine for many years, you all should do your best."

Whatever others might have thought on the weird requests but for Feng Ming when he first heard he was confused not able to understand, "Benighted King" those two little words almost had slipped out of his mouth. Selection of the crown prince would be the most important for the country and yet how did he made such unreasonable demands? No wonder Bo Jian have decline to this level.



Chapter XII

Part I

Until this moment, the banquet for Feng Ming had become a battleground for the four princes, no one care for drink and music afterward, after Bo Jian King ordered everyone started performed farewell ceremony and departed the palace.

Bo Hu and Bo Yiu looked at each other, and finally turned simultaneously glared at Bo Ling, aggravated and intimidated as they gone, apparently to discuss how to achieve the three conditions.

Bo Qin did not care about the throne was most euphoric man there, when he saw Bo Jian King stood up to leave with the concubines, then he turned and smiled at Feng Ming, "Your Grace storytelling are very interesting, if it alright, plead Feng Ming to come over Bo Qin's palace for entertaining? "

Feng Ming had greatly impressed by Bo Qin, almost agree before he interrupted by Bo Ling, "Duke Ming, there are many things to do, Your Grace could visit the Third Prince's residence another time?"

Bo Qin did not mind thus he nodded and went away.

Feng Ming, Bo Ling and the third princess, of course went home on the same way. They climbed up the carriage in front of the basilica, when the thick curtain pulled down, the third princess' stern face instantly lighten up and flashes with a radiant smile, "It's truly lucky today with Duke Ming assistance if not the situation would have not be good as this."

"What? I? "

Bo Ling clasped his hands said very sincerely, "Duke Ming assistance today, in the future when Bo Ling become a King would never dare not forget."

Feng Ming surprised said, "Bo Jian King had not formally appointed Your Highness as the Crown Prince, why are you in such high spirited?"

"Father King of course does not make it clear, but deep in his heart has implicitly pointed out, Duke Ming does not understand?" The third princess at the side giggled, "The three conditions of the King, clearly chosen Bo Ling to be the Crown Prince."

"What?"

Bo Ling saw Feng Ming silly face, nodded said, "The Third Princess said correctly, the three

conditions, and there is one thing that referring to Duke Ming. Duke Ming of course is the guest of Bo Ling, thus only I could carried out this condition."

Feng Ming contemplated, *'one condition out of three was pointing at me in order to judge?'*

He wrinkled eyebrows, thought back and felt that the only second condition might be apply to him. *'Could Bo Jian King really think I was the most handsome man in the world? No wonder Chiu Yue and Chiu Lian from morning to night which had compliment me all day about me handsomeness, I've thought those are just empty praised, but Bac King also believe that.'*

When he thought about it could help but a little proud himself and nodded happily.

The third princess asked, "It is not difficult to Duke Ming, but not sure if Duke Ming willing to help us."

Bo Ling looed earnestly at Feng Ming said, "If Duke Ming nod, Bo Ling himself immediately take the horses and with Duke Ming departed the city back to Xi-Rei."

Feng Ming of course want to go back to Xi-Rei, and portrait of himself given to Bo Ling was not much, at best only make Rong Tian a little jealous. He immediately nodded and said proudly,

"This is absolutely not difficult, we can begin immediately, when the Fourth Prince will bring the Master Artist over for the painting?"

Bo Ling and the third princess glanced at each other in bewilderment, looked at each other for a while.

"Why do we need a Master Artist?"

"Do you not want a picture of me..."

"I understood now, Duke Ming must have seen the painting of Mei Ji the world most beautiful woman, and wanted to show us the portrait."

Feng Ming felt stupor and asked, "Mei Ji?"

"That right. The world most beautiful woman Mei Ji, years ago she had quietly left Fan Jia, have never heard since then, Father King had always admired Mei Ji reputation, but unable to meet her."

It turns out the request was in another direction, Feng Ming's face flushed with embarrassment.

The third princess said, "No one have able to find Mei Ji, this task extremely difficult. However, Mei Ji cared deeply for Xi-Rei King, would listen to him, if Xi-Rei King said the words, Mei Ji would definitely take a trip to Bo Jian. "

Bo Ling lips suddenly overjoyed smiles, "Xi-Rei King deeply love Duke, would listen to Your Grace, Duke Ming said the word and Xi-Rei King will bring Mei Ji here." He sat opposite Feng Ming and clasped his hands. "Thanks Duke Ming for everything."

Feng Ming blinked; it seems forever later that he able to process this weird distantly relationship of the condition. Actually, the story of Mei Ji he had heard briefly from Xia Guan, in which at that time he was painful hurt and bitter about for so long about it.

He thought in my heart, *'The harem in Bo Jian have countless of concubines, just a glance at the King, he surely a womaniser. If Mei Ji comes to Bo Jian, eighty percent the King likely added her into his harem collection. In that case, there will be less in one love rival?'* Nevertheless, he changed his mind a few seconds later, *'Although a beautiful woman to marry to such a guy like him surely is pitiful, I can't take advantage of her? If I really do it, Lie-er's group would look down and despise me.'*

The third princess and Bo Ling happily wait for Feng Ming reply. Feng Ming was dazing for while, then perplexed muttered, "Hey ... this condition, I could not help the Fourth Prince."

Bo Ling astonished question, "It's so simple, why Duke Ming is not help me?"

"Had Duke Ming not just agreed before?"

Feng Ming shook his head said, "Before... that matter ... currently I think it would not be a good idea, Mei Ji will certainly not be agree to this. The Fourth Prince needless continue ask this of me, let's quickly discuss the remaining two conditions and think about that condition later."

"But this ..."

"Bo Ling," The third princess smiled softly said, "If Duke Ming does not agree, then please stop." In her thought, *'Although Duke Ming would not agree, we still automatically send the request to Xi-Rei as an exchange for Mei Ji.'*

Bo Ling also shared her thought, he exchanged eyes contacts with the third princess then laughed, and then after that they did not speak about that again.

Feng Ming surface was gloomy and depressed as they driven back. When they back to sector of his resident, he saw the guards still in place and full of weapons on them at the gate, brightly flash, and the atmosphere still strictly guarded.

Bo Ling saw Feng Ming stared at the guards, soothe said, "Duke Ming thousands times do not misunderstand, Your Grace still the honoured guests of Bo Ling, you could go anywhere and do anything that you like. These defence guards only here dedicated to protecting Duke Ming."

Feng Ming snorted coldly as he quickly stepped inside.

Lin Tan stood inside, hastily jumping down from chair to exclaimed, "Duke Ming returned! Did you meet the King?" She and Feng Ming lived together for some time, so absolutely have no ceremony and uptight like as Bo Ling, she ran to Feng Ming side.

"Yeah, I saw him."

Lin Tan closed with Feng Ming for a moment when she saw Bo Ling from outside entered the room, hastily throw Feng Ming aside, rushed out and welcome her big brother, "Elder Brother, did Elder Brother see the Great King?"

Bo Ling smiled sweetly and warmth hugged and carried Lin Tan up, "Of course I saw him, the Great King asked if Lin Tan is on good behaviour, if she good everyday then will make Lin Tan a princess."

"Lin Tan of course is very good." Lin Tan sweetly answered.

The third princess stood behind Bo Ling said, "If Lin Tan is good, then go to practice a word for today, this would be the best behaviour."

"Go." Bo Ling dropped Lin Tan down.

Lin Tan turned and looked at Feng Ming, "Well... I finished writing then will come back here to playing with Duke Ming." She laughed with Feng Ming as her eyes closed then shot outside fast like lightning.

Bo Ling watched the tiny shadow of Lin Tan, corner of lips gently curved into a faint smile leisurely, then clasped his hand turned to Feng Ming, "Duke Ming please take an early rest, I must go see Lin Tan word practicing, and come back little later." He lifted the curtain up and leisurely went out.

In Feng Ming's eyes, he felt the only person Bo Ling truly treated with care was his sister, even with the third princess it seems he might care for position more than her, he deeply sighed.

"Why Duke Ming sighed?" the third princess asked in concern.

"I think that Bo Jian treated Lin Tan too good."

"That's true." The third princess nodded, "Sometimes when I saw Bo Ling spoiled loving Lin Tan, I remembered my own sisters."

Inside Feng Ming's heart slightly stirred, since he here at Bo Jian a lot of things changed, he had almost forgotten the tragedy in Fan Jia.

Feng Ming made coughed sound, he did not want cut deeper into the third princess' heart and deliberately change the topics, "The three conditions of the Great King, the most beautiful woman in the world referred to Mei Ji, but the remaining two conditions, how Bo Ling will respond?"

When the third princess heard this matter, her black eyes gently shaken, tilted her head and asked, "according to Duke Ming how the response should be?"

"We should first think of the portrait. I thought it best to find out who the world handsome man."

"The problem seems that the Great King is testing the wisdom of Bo Ling." The third princess frowned said, "The world has recognised Mei Ji as the world beautiful, so there no one else. But

in the case of handsome man every country had them, although never over the years have anyone ranks them, perhaps to take a whole collection before the King and let him select one person?"

Feng Ming stood thoughtfully thinking, "Beauty in the eyes of the beholder, what we think a person beautiful might not be in the eyes of Bo Jian King?"

"Beauty in the eyes of the beholder?" the third princess pondered those words for a moment, then suddenly lighted up, turned to Feng Ming asked, "Duke Ming, in your eyes who the most beautiful man?"

"Of course ..."

He wanted to mention Rong Tian, but felt a little embarrassed. Feng Ming suddenly hesitated.

The third princess also guessed, "In Your Grace's eyes, the world most handsome man should be Xi-Rei King. Except in my eyes, the handsome man of course is Bo Ling. In the eyes of the parents, the most handsome man should be their biological son. In that case, in the eyes of the King, the most beautiful one is..."

"That is Father King." Bo Ling had arrived from the outside, delirium laughed as the curtain lifted up, "The world handsome man must have been the Father King. Ha ha, this first proposal is

diverting strategy, very interesting indeed. Additional, Father King indeed is handsome, not average type and even more attentive nursing care of his skin, hence the skin even nicer than young girls, to be seen as the world handsome man is not too much."

Feng Ming stared and gapped; the thick skin King that seems to be thicker than the buffalo's skin and this sheep prince truly was truly a pair to have the same opinion.

The third princess saw Feng Ming strange face, and asked, "Duke Ming have different opinion?"

"Ah? No, no." Feng Ming shook his head.

"If so, we will immediately find a good artist to make a portrait for Father King, especially that his handsome face will be hand down to the next generations."

Chapter XII

Part II

Feng Ming contemplated, *'what would happen if they guessed wrong about Bo Jian King's intention, would this be called 'ingratiating flattery someone not at the right place which unable to gain anything out of this', then it will be fun to stealthily watch the shows.'* He was not going to remind them to be careful but thoughtful, *'if Bo Ling meet bad luck, and I'm currently in his protection, would that mean it would involved me as well, I will not let that happen, first must consider that we are on the same boat.'*

Therefore, he hurriedly advised Bo Ling, "Fourth Prince should think a little more of this decision, if this not the same idea as Bo Jian King, Your Highness would lose the chance bid for the throne."

Bo Ling stopped smiling, mused for a moment, then suddenly raised his head said, "Duke Ming should not worry. The King wanted to meet the most beautiful woman at the palace but only a portrait of world handsome man to hang in the inner palace, this should confirm the idea. In this case, he only need a portrait of himself thus did not require to meet this person which is himself."

Feng Ming contemplated, did not speak up, quietly resentment inside, *'a thick skin like him to be a King is truly terrifying, forced other to confess that he the world handsome man. Hn, Bo Jian King you not even worth to compare with Rong Tian's toes nail?'*

'Oh, Rong Tian when you going to pick me up? Are you going to leave me as a hostage at Bo Jian forever?'

He sneakily cursed his lover with a few words but instantly regret and reversed his thought to positive instead, *'Rong Tian still have an army in front of him, even if there is official declared the war end with Li Kingdom. He still need to rectify the nation army and resolves thousands of the country issues which had put off, so it would certainly take a few days before he could getaway and worry about me.'*

All night, he rolled around could not sleep concerned for Rong Tian, until it was three o'clock that he fallen asleep. The next morning when he yet opened his eyes, the outside of the room was loudly footsteps hurriedly arriving.

Bo Ling rolled the curtain up, smiled happily, "Duke Ming, are you awake? Do you know what posture have been plastered all over the alleys in this city?" He seems very cheerful as he handed over the rolls of papers just seems to shred off the wall into Feng Ming hands.

Feng Ming yawned for a while before sat up as his eyes rolled over to the paper.

On the paper there a large red letters of reward --- a reward for the most beautiful man in the world, if anyone in the family who considered to be the most handsome man in the world then to go the First Prince's residence, would get a significant rewards. If anyone also had, a portrait of the most handsome man also rewards.

Feng Ming's face passive for a while before rollover and laughed, "This ... this Bo Hu is really idiot, Bo Jian King will certainly be rage, the first prince did not support his father appearance."

Bo Ling nodded said, "That right. Just in less than an hour this posture of reward would be fallen into the hands of Father King, Elder Royal Brother from now on could only dream of the King throne from the distance."

Feng Ming stared at the paper roll in the hands of Bo Ling, felt it was not right, but could not able to think of what is the problem. He step-down the bed and took the paper to the window and mused, "Bo Hu even if not able to guess the most handsome man in the world in Bo Jian King, he would not able to come up with the idea about using the posture to search for the world handsome man."

"So what does Duke Ming think?"

"Someone must use this announcement to harm Bo Hu." Feng Ming concluded, suddenly turned back, and take a closer looked at Bo Ling.

Bo Ling slowly smiled, "Are you suspicious of Bo Ling?"

"So my doubt is incorrect?"

Bo Ling laughed, "Duke Ming's reputation truly more ingenious than other people. Please have a look at this, Your Grace." He stuck out another pack of announcement and displayed them in front of Duke Ming.

The postures also reward notice; the content very similar to the other notice, except the reward is to go to the Second Prince's residence.

"What?" Feng Ming glanced over Bo Ling to scrutinise him.

Bo Ling calmly said, "This strategy Bo Ling had been thought last night, I had even sent scribe to work throughout the night to do all this posture, but someone have taken this step before me, to harm the First Prince."

"The person you want to hurt is Bo Yiu?"

"I just choose one out of two." Bo Ling said slowly, "However, with this posture I felt I had underestimated my Second Royal Brother force, perhaps he had deliberately concealed his capacity?"

Feng Ming frowned, "My observation of yesterday Bo Yiu is not such a person who could plot like that."

"I believe my Royal Brother have someone support from behind. This person is not only a good strategist but able to understand Father King's thought, and very effective in action that extremely quick and leaving no trace behind." Bo Ling face sudden became serious, his voice depressing said, "Duke Ming do not forgot the story of Long Tian in Fan Jia."

"Ruo Yan?" Feng Ming blurted in horror.

"If Ruo Yan could foster a puppet monarchy, then he could build another one in Bo Jian."

"Why does he not change the place as the Fourth Prince? Are you even more dangerous than Bo Hu? "

Bo Ling shook his head and forced a smile, "Duke Ming really believes Father King is benighted king? This mistake believe, even my First Royal Brother would not dare to thread, let alone me? This posture although seems to get at Elder Brother but actually it targeted directly at me."

Feng Ming heard Bo Ling suddenly awakened, "Yes, if someone blame Bo Hu, then the most suspect should be Your Highness. Who would have thought of Bo Yiu rival with Bo Hu? "

The two frowned and started to worries at the implication of situation had occurred.

Sometime later the third princess rushed inside as she stepped over the threshold started to report, "The palace have send out a notice for Bo Ling, I believe the Great King already heard about the posture announcement. Bo Ling, have you find a way out of this trouble? "

Bo Ling quietly smiling at the third princess, gloomy shook his head.

"The crime of harm a prince is death row, although there is no evidence of Bo Ling, but Father King would never going to have good impression of me after attempt harming his own royal brother." The third princess frowned, sat down the chair heavily, "One who had lost the faith, then how could he become the king, what to do?"

Bo Ling said, "There is no evidence, Father King would not kill Bo Ling. The most troublesome problem is Duke Ming."

"You are worry about me?" Feng Ming immediately turned sharply back.

"If Bo Ling unable to prove my own innocent, will likely be confined to the royal palace. What if someone outside during this time would harm Duke Ming..."

Feng Ming eyes sudden appeared the image of poisonous snake eyes of Ruo Yan, sudden extremely panic and shaken said, "No way! You should not think everything had become such desolate situation. Ruo Yan still struggled to cope with the great army of Rong Tian at his border, how could he be distracted? If Ruo Yan actually has time looked for me then Rong Tian surely has already at Bo Jian to pick me up."

The third princess lowers her head thoughtfully, slowly nodded, "Let hope so."

She knew though Feng Ming seems to be very wise and know it all sometimes times but at other time, he was too childish naive. The battle between Rong Tian and Ruo Yan has ended soon when the news of Feng Ming spread. However, Xi-Rei military force must drain after the battle and Rong Tian have to lead them back. Even if he want to come to Bo Jian would have to travel through the neighbour country of Li Kingdom which mean the times of expedition would be longer.

Ruo Yan case was much different. His military was at the border of their homeland, so there would be no problem of withdrawal blocked them, therefore overcoming the consequences of

Ruo Yan was lesser than Rong Tian. If Ruo Yan wants travelled to Bo Jian, he directly go over the border, whether the route or assistance should be more effective.

Bo Ling also will be in danger at the palace, but the most problem that while Bo Ling away, someone could easily kidnapped Feng Ming away.

If Feng Ming taken by Ruo Yan when Bo Ling unable to protect him, how Rong Tian ignored Bo Ling for incompetent?

If Bo Ling died, Bo Jian throne would surely fall into the hands of Bo Yiu, which is a puppet under the pulling the strings of Ruo Yan, in that case it seems another country will be add under his conquered.

"Oh, just a small announcement yet it had hidden inside layer of scheme, truly scary." The third princess groaned, exchanging eyes contact with Feng Ming, two people without arrangement have remembered at the same time of the indelible unforgotten memories of Ruo Yan's eyes.

Bo Ling found the third princess despondent, he turned away so that she did not pay attention to him and laughed with Feng Ming said, "Duke Ming should not be worry, currently in Bo Jian, beside Bo Ling, there is another who would able and agree to protect Duke Ming. Moreover, Your Grace could trust him."

"Who?"

"The Third Prince Bo Qin. During this provision Bo Ling staying at the palace, Duke Ming should visit the Third Royal Brother, and discussed about dreams."

Bo Ling restored his carefree self, unhurried stoop down at Feng Ming. After he negotiated everything to satisfaction, the three of them went separate ways. Bo Ling alone going to the palace to have the audience with Bo Jian King, the third princess sent for Han Su Wen who was confidant of Bo Ling and dispatched him to escort Feng Ming to the third prince's residence, while she stayed behind to look after Lin Tan.

Feng Ming followed Han Su Wen to the third prince's residence, Bo Qin had received the message earlier, had led his people to stood outside the main gate waiting for him. When Feng Ming's carriage had rolled to the gate, he stepped forward, lifted the blind, smiling his welcome, "It's a struggle, finally able invited Duke Ming from the Fourth brother to come here."

Feng Ming feels friendliness toward Bo Qin, he smiled happily, jumped off the carriage horse.

"Your Palace truly elegant and tranquil, indeed the things are the same as it owner."

Feng Ming looked around then dragged Bo Qin, "Today I'll not act as a guest, so, let us go inside and play."

Bo Qin saw Feng Ming revealed his childish tendency, his corner mouth slightly curve softly.

When the two people went inside, they sat down and enjoyed tea together in the living room.

"Your Grace's dream story Bo Qin have been reflected on it since I went home, felt that it truly infinitely deep."

Feng Ming gestured his hand and laughed, "Please do not mention it anymore, I had never thought the story could cause many thing happens. If I had knew this earlier I would not had storytelling it." When his eyes darted around and saw the crowd of servants have gone quietly, Feng Ming expression become serious, said quietly, "Feng Ming have a request, hope the Third Prince would help me."

Bo Qin stunned, "What Duke Ming request?"

"It is a small request." Feng Ming's eyes gently shaken, "Had the Third Prince heard that early this morning Bo Ling have an audience with the King at the palace?"

"Whatever happens outside, I have never really cared to ask, so ..." Bo Qin was embarrassed and shook his head.

Feng Ming expression knowingly and nodded, "The situation outside are always messy, oh, I also do not wanted to be involved as well, in the past beside Rong Tian I need not to think anything, now have to be self-reliance... Oh, should not say this stupid thing again." He moved close to Bo Qin's ears, "There a notification appeared in the city which implication in harm the First Prince, Bo Ling is currently being the main suspect of this investigation. The Great King received Bo Ling probably to interrogation his involvement in this case."

Bo Qin slightly shake, looked worried as he said impatiently, "So ... So I must immediately enter the palace and asked to Father King to let Fourth Brother go."

"Of course, Bo Ling allegedly as a suspect is unfairly." Feng Ming acted as a strategist, "The Third Prince requested release for Bo Ling but what evidence do you have to prove of his innocent?"

"This... of course I don't have any. Nevertheless, his attitude in dealing with people he certainly will not do such a heartless, cruelty thing."

'Your Fourth Brother of course could have done such extremely cruel thing to other.' Feng Ming sighed inside.

"Yeah right, Bo Ling absolutely will not do such thing. Bo Ling currently is powerless; we must protect his safety, but also need to wary of Bo Hu and Bo Yiu who could use this opportunity to murder Bo Ling, and beside this we needs to search for evidence to help Bo Ling who under the suspicion of the Great King."

"Protecting Fourth Brother safety? Search for the evidence under the suspicion of Father King? These two matters sound easy but very hard to be done." Bo Qin frowned and looking confused at Feng Ming.

Feng Ming stealed a glanced at Bo Qin, who had the same expression as he had when he come in contact with the evil scheme in the palace, he snickered "It not really that hard."

Bo Qin amazed and clasped his hands said, "If Duke Ming have strategy, plead to counsel Bo Qin."

Feng Ming secretly celebrated that the opening play had come to pass, baritone voice said, "It's best to leave Bo Ling with the King, while the Third Prince helps Bo Ling to search for evidence to clear crimes."

"Yeah, should leave Fourth Brother with Father King." Bo Qin's eyes glowed, constantly nodded, "I understood, it safer for Fourth Brother staying inside the palace and while we could investigate for fraud evidence, to win the trust back from Father King."

Feng Ming nodded vigorously, "So plead the Third Prince to go in front of Bo Jian King and loudly berated Bo Ling, so that Bo Jian King temporarily confined the Fourth Prince inside the royal palace. Later, the Your Highness will reveal that you're not prejudice with Bo Ling but preserve for his safety."

Bo Qin extremely talents with music and art but with complexity of life situation in which he facing he was guileless, stood up and said, "I'll go right away." When he about to walk away then stopped, turned around and asked, "Is this what Duke Ming request from me? Duke Ming toward my country is truly good. If able to protect Fourth Brother, it surely will preserve a good King for Bo Jian." His face appeared a grateful smile.

Feng Ming inside briefly embarrassment, he needed to take the advantage of Bo Ling being held inside the palace, though felt restlessly nagged inside. If Rong Tian come to pick him up, it would be much better at the third prince's residence, than in the hands of Bo Ling.

It was not easy get out of Bo Ling's hand, he was not interested to become a hostage again.

‘Bo Ling, oh Lang Bo Ling, it was not because of your misfortune that I’d attacked you, but this is for my happiness, you better be at peace as a hostage in the palace for two months. At most when I returned to Xi-Rei will write to letter to request for your releases.’

Bo Qin immediate departed, whilst Feng Ming happily relaxed and viewed the flowers as he drank tea.

It not up to two hours later, the carriage of Bo Qin had returned.

Bo Qin entered the room and immediately reported to Feng Ming, "Father King really angry, who could be ugly venomous to plan harm my Fourth Brother? I just scold him two sentences so that Father King would house arrest him, after that asked for a decree to investigate the situation. Gosh, the looks on our brother face stared at me really horrible; hopefully later he will understand my suffering."

Feng Ming laughed, bottom up the cup of tea in his hand, then put it down on the table as it echoed, "He certainly would be extremely grateful for you later. If Bo Ling actually because of this and hate you, when he ascend to be a King then you just flee to Xi-Rei and live there as my guest should be okay."

After that, these two hearts felt relieved, as their burden had gone so they started conversation

about song and poems. Feng Ming of course memorised many poems, so he steal a few proverbs from the ancient literature of Li Bai, Su Dongpo, which of course impressed and surprised Bo Qin endlessly.

So the night goes by as the owner and guest were fullest enjoyed in their entertainment discussion.

The next day Bo Qin indeed started to investigate the matter, leaving Feng Ming alone in the third prince's palace.

Feng Ming who never like to sit at one place too long, extremely want to go outside, but remembered the situation so decided it best to stay out of trouble and remained at the third prince's palace. It was fortunately that Bo Qin had advised the servants brought him all the interesting Bo Jian's toys for him to play so that he would not be bored.

Therefore, Feng Ming had passed the day leisurely than any previous days he had been in Bo Jian.

Chapter XIII

Part I

Feng Ming indolent had fun all day and the investigation of Bo Qin did not progressed either.

Feng Ming celebrated silently, '*Bo Qin too inexperienced and simple mind, so how could he engaged against Bo Yiu craftiness?*' It was good that Bo Ling could able to protect of himself so Feng Ming did not bother to worry.

The only thing that Feng Ming very concerned was he still had not heard anything from Xi-Rei. He estimated the illumination of Kung Ming lantern should be about half a month by now, if Rong Tian was slow-witted, as snails should have made a move already.

One day Bo Qin returned to his residence for resting after busy outside for half a day.

Feng Ming saw his face and knew things still not gone well for the other man thus tried to comfort and smiled, "The Third Prince should not be hasty with this investigation, times still on your hand, in addition, Bo Ling should be quite safe inside the palace, so we could take the time to investigate this should be fine."

Bo Qin laughed miserably and shook his head, "It seems that I am very useless person, except for the poetry and art, when it comes to conducted business, I am no matched to the Fourth Brother? If Fourth Brother was to solve this problem, it would take him no longer than three days unlike mine twenty one days and still no lead."

Bo Ling does have acute intelligent, but his schemes very discreet which one of essential key for a King. Feng Ming observed Bo Qin and thought that if Bo Qin have reign the kingdom, his ruling would very similar to Song Qinzong Zhao Huan period in history. He nodded in agreement, "That's correct, when it comes to political issues, among the royal princes Bo Ling would be the best candidate, although sometimes he was a bit ... Ha ha, let not speak about that. Did Xi-Rei envoy arrived in Bo Jian today? "

"No."

Feng Ming appearance grimace immediately with little mood left.

"Nevertheless, I heard that the most beautiful woman had sent a message, said to travel to Bo Jian and will meet with Father King for once, what more she had already departed for the journey." Bo Qin face seemed a little odd as he scrutinised at Feng Ming, a faltering said, "The messenger also said, the person who escorting Mei Ji... is Xi-Rei King Rong Tian."

"Rong Tian?" Feng Ming stood up, eyes widened, "He ... He escorted Mei Ji?"

"Duke Ming should not be angry; I believe this action of Xi-Rei King had other intention."

Of course, he had other intention, Rong Tian probably already knew eight out ten of the conditions selection of Bo Jian King, he used Mei Ji to play and manoeuvre this for his own benefits.

Feng Ming had lived with Rong Tian for a while, although thoughtless but has progress a little; he could somewhat predicted what Rong Tian thinking. Mei Ji stood in front of palace hall and said which prince has invited her, then this prince would meet the first condition of Bo Jian King, this was no difference in directly of hand picking which prince ascended the throne.

If Rong Tian wanted to pick a benighted King then selected Bo Hu; but if he choose a king to rival and caused troubles for Ruo Yan, then he certainly will select Bo Ling.

Feng Ming's head was spinning with many thoughts, then his face soon returned to normal, snorted, heavily sat down, quietly muttered, "Did not even bother to pick me sooner, always thinking about politics and wicked scheming." He felt wrathful instantaneously bottom up the teacup.

Bo Qin ignorant asked, "What did Duke Ming say?"

"Nothing." Feng Ming controls his feelings and asked Bo Qin "When that Rong Tian will arrive?"

"The group hastily travelled on the road so only about ten days." Bo Qin did not want to but he shook his head, "Xi-Rei King did not have compassion for a beautiful woman, it will be a hard trip along the road with all sorts of weathers, fatigue caused by arduous road, but also arranged the journey travelled over days and nights. Oh, I fears that by the time they arrived Peng Ye, Mei Ji would be emaciated." His loves for beauty in which inherited from his father King, anything that is beautiful always cherishes.

When Feng Ming heard Rong Tian hurriedly on the road, his felt relaxed and a little relieved. He now able to estimate the day of reunion with Rong Tian thus felt a heavy rock have removed from his chest.

After dinner, he and Bo Qin relaxed and chitchat as usual. The contents always about natural wonder that humankind love* in poems, songs and art. Feng Ming and Bo Qin like that had discussed for the topic for half a months, words stored inside him nearly done. In consequence, Bo Qin devotion and admiration for him had increased and climbs to greater heights.

The warm weather wrapped around the residence, the moon hangs angling on the branches. Their discussion today was at pergola in the middle of the lake, Bo Qin elegant and witty, friendly courteous, and exception when Feng Ming need explained his knowledge clearly, everything seemed to be the greatest contentment that hard to find in the world.

He took the cup of hot tea gently take a sip. The taste of the tea leisurely spread from the tongue, Feng Ming compliment, "Bo Jian is a beautiful country, the people love the beauty things, designed rooms must be beautiful, even to drink tea also extremely beautiful."

Bo Qin seemed to mull over, nodded said, "Duke Ming is correct. Although, a beautiful person need not to have a beautiful appearance, Bo Qin feel the most beautiful thing in this world, should be inside of oneself."

"True! You're truly is your father son." Feng Ming thumbs up, "The beauty outside could never compare with the spiritual beauty, like a female, they first must have modest temperament and graceful, then they could be called beautiful person. But if beautiful on the outside but empty inside, it would be a bag of garbage."

Bo Qin delighted with mixed of fear as he heard Feng Ming agreed, "Duke Ming also believe that?"

"Of course." Feng Ming extremely sly as the corner of mouth curled up as he understood Bo Jian hidden secret and immediately asked "Why? There is someone in your heart?"

"Duke Ming had once said, 'a graceful virtue female would be desire by honourable

gentleman'*. " Bo Qin muttering discreetly, but his mood did not concealed by the constantly stirred in the eyes.

Feng Ming giggled for a while, then patted on his shoulder and whispered, "Which family the lady come from? What is her name? "

Bo Qin replied honestly, "Her name is Feng Gui, lived in an elegant residence near the mountains outside the city. She understands arts and very good with music, unfortunately I had always stayed inside the city thus never know that there is someone in the world like her. If not for a few days ago leaved the city to investigate the scandal of Fourth Brother and heard the zither played, I fear I would never meet her in this life."

"You like her?"

Bo Qin flushed and stammered, "This..."

Feng Ming saw the other man form was submerged under the sea of love, reminded him of his friend in high school, smiled like he have good harvest, "I understand. What her attitude toward you?"

"She seems to likes me." Bo Qin thoughtfully for a moment said shyly, "Very sympathetic."

"Ha ha, so it means both of you have feelings for each other. Younger brother, a great woman like that must take instantly." Feng Ming revealed his inherent nature, banged on the back of Bo Qin, "Tomorrow morning, go straight to see the King and request to marry her."

When Feng Ming referred to Bo Jian King, Bo Qin face instantly gloomy and depressed, "This... this, will be a little difficult."

Feng Ming confounded, after rambled thoughts he said coldly, "Are you going to have your fun with her for a moment and not intended to marry?"

"It's not it." Bo Qin denied swiftly, sighed and whispered, "In true Duke Ming, Feng Gui may be a commoner, this of course could be arranged. But she...even though she talented, her appearance was mediocre, and with Father King's views he absolutely would not allow such a girl to be step into royal family."

It seems the problem is that, Feng Ming instantly sympathy.

Can Bac said, "Although in my heart, she was... is ..."

Feng Ming saw the other man expressed his deep loved but too shy, with a good-hearted he spoken finished off the words for him, "she is the most beautiful woman in the world."

Bo Qin nodded, "Yes, she is the most beautiful woman in the world."

Feng Ming saw love everywhere and sighed for he could not stop missing that obnoxious Rong Tian. The bastard currently still around beside Mei Ji, she was not only the world beautiful woman, but rumoured that she also a woman devoted and greatly care for others, he wonder that days and nights spending time together like that, have drunk too much alcohol may be...

"Duke Ming? Duke Ming? " Bo Qin violently called so his obscured muddle thoughts disappeared.

Feng Ming turned and silly asked, "Huh?"

"Duke Ming's strategies unparalleled in the world, please advised an approach to help me." Bo Qin urgently looked at Feng Ming.

"An approach?" Feng Ming scratched his head.

From past to present the methods for this type of game was very similar, such as fled their hometown and elope, met a great tribulation to get the consent of parents, have an affair then bring a chubby baby home and walked through the door.

"Duke Ming?"

He coughed, "I could not immediately think of the method. However, it is best that you invite this lady to meet me for a little bit, then we will go from there."

Bo Qin happily said, "So tomorrow I'll bring Feng Gui here."

Feng Ming's eyes opened, it looks wicked as he giggled, "No need, tomorrow we will go to the mountain to see her, scare her for once." He had been inside for many days so when an opportunity arrived, of course would not let it pass. Beside Rong Tian is on the way and it would be too late if he not go out to have fun.

"Feng Gui like tranquillity, this is..."

"There is no excuse, it had decided." Feng Ming act as a leader, the on things on his mind was the thought of go out to play tomorrow, could not contain his excitement, muttered to himself, "I

wonder what mountain folk dishes they have here, I'll catch a few rabbits and roast them for dinner, kukuku, this going to be fun."

He submissively slept through the night, the next day the weather was extremely beautiful, Feng Ming woke up very early and after wash his face and brush his hair finished, and instantly went off to search for Bo Qin.

"Bo Qin, let us depart."

Bo Qin already woken up smiled and said, "Duke Ming got up too early today. Let me organised everything ready before we're heading out. "

The two people were highly spirited ran outside the front gate where two row of guards line up about hundreds stood outside waiting, the soldiers were fully clasped with body armour which impressive stately.

Feng Ming saw them and looked discontent at Bo Qin.

Bo Qin explained, "Duke Ming status is very important, the Third Princess had told me many times to protect Your Grace carefully, not to be lightening up in security. Today we must bring along a little more guards for protection."

The television drama acts seems to appear before him in reality as the sound of troops tremors, Feng Ming tried to talk his way out of it, Bo Qin an easy outgoing character but would not give into this concessions. Since there no other way Feng Ming accepted defeat and climb up on the horse, leading a sizable troop out of the city gate.

Feng Ming had been stayed in Bo Jian for sometimes but have not had the time to enjoy the local scenery. His anger quickly dissipated as Bo Qin took him outside as they sightseeing the sceneries. Bo Qin also introduced their custom, in which made Feng Ming felt better and laughed as they travelled.

The residence of Feng Gui was not too far from the city, they departed the city gate for more than a mile east, in which they was facing a luxurious green mountains.

Feng Ming constrained the horse beneath the mountainside; Bo Qin suddenly pulled Feng Ming over and gently whispered. "Duke Ming quickly listen, Feng Gui is playing the zither."

The servants also silence as results, they could heard inside the mountains a melodious sound of music strikes, the sounds seems interwoven chanting among the thick trees, dancing with the wind in which allowed other feel happily relaxed upon heard the music.

Bo Qin closed his eyes, face up to the sky, showed extremely ecstatic passionate.

When the song ended, Feng Ming sighed and groaned, "It is extraordinary, I never before heard any great as this. The sound very clear, after you married must insisted her to plays every day for you to listen..." In his thought, *'Hundred million times never let Rong Tian listened to Feng Gui played, hence he would think I'm bad at everything.'*

Bo Qin laughed, said shyly, "Playing zenith taken up too much energy, how could I be callous to let her suffering of fatigue."

"Ho ho, you have yet married, but already for her suffered on thoughtfulness, Feng Gui truly is fortune." Feng Ming teased him, immediately dismounted his horse said, "So let us walk from here, to avoid disturbed the serenity of your future wife, lest someone see and feel pain."

Bo Qin was afraid the troop move forward inside would disturb Feng Gui, felt gratitude at Feng Ming idea, hastily dismounted, advised them to camp closed at bottom of the mountain, only chosen a few close attendants to follow them.

The mountain road was bumpy, the height was not high, but it takes them to crawl up at least half an hour. Feng Ming forehead drenched with sweat, fortune along the trail there many spring flowers bloom, everywhere the luxuriant green, permitted them to feel pleasure of nature sight.

"Duke Ming, just around that twist passage, we will arrive at Feng Gui's place." Bo Qin pointed ahead as he turned to Feng Ming.

Feng Ming made a few sounds that he listened, *'It seems martial novel is correct, those highly talented people like to live up on the high mountains, made other who seek them until they are tired of exhaustion.'*

When they went over the twist passage, a building appears before them.

The fence was made of bamboo and the house structure by wooden logs, even though it was simplicity but there a stylishness that hard to describe, the appearance of the building illustrated it not belong to common folk. The hedge seems recently built; still green make people feel pleasant with their eyesight.

In the yard there an old root tree in which a zither place on top, it seems Feng Gui had returned to her room when she done her playing the instrument.

Bo Qin was a man who had immersed in the vortex spinning of love, that he treated Feng Gui extremely with consideration, afraid that many people will make Feng Gui felt uncomfortable so have ordered the servants stayed outside only take Feng Ming's hand and led him slowly inside.

When Feng Ming saw Bo Qin wariness, after listened to the music and saw the decorations outside it seems the owner was someone very special, Feng Ming brighten inside, even tip toes quietly, not to disturbed the owner.

"Feng Gui, today you have a guest that from afar to visit, could you please come out quickly."

Bo Qin laughed as he stepped inside and called out.

The living room have no dust, extraordinary clean, but there was no shadow of anyone, only fear that Feng Gui may no longer inside.

Feng Ming looked around at the objects arranged in the living room, forceful voice and clasped his hands in front of the room said, "Lady Feng Gui, Xi-Rei Duke Ming had unintentionally bothered you, plead for your forgiveness." The speech was ultimate formal; of course, he had secretly stolen from an old drama plays.

He suddenly heard from the room a soothing female voice easy to listen, "You would not accept my invitation even if I invite, how could you be possible troubled me?"

Note:

'a graceful virtue female would be desire by honourable gentleman' phrase initiate from a book/ poem of Mao Cong, the story about King Van Vuong, a saintly man married to virtuous woman called Cai Si. The relationship appearance of the couple was respectfully and conservative, though everyone could see that their loves was very deep, similar to the bird **Thu Cuu** always together but still individual separate. This of course has become the culture foundation.



Zither

Chapter XIII

Part II

Feng Ming shocked, this sounds was very familiar, seems he had heard somewhere. Before he could draw a conclusion, the blind lifted half upward and a graceful figure went out, the smiles brightly as the spring breeze in March as she said to Feng Ming, "Long time no see, Duke Ming still well?" this person of course it Li Kingdom Princess' Miao Guang.

When he saw Miao Guang, Feng Ming felt as if he hit by a lightning, felt half of his soul tossed outside and turned to look surprised at Bo Qin.

In his drowsiness only saw, a shadow person stood beside him, "Feng Gui, you lived here in solitude, how did you met Duke Ming?"

'He have entrapped by Ruo Yan!'

Feng Ming tried to calm his spirit, regardless of how Miao Guang answers; he started retreating backward and quickly fumbled for the dagger hidden inside his belt.

Behind sudden there sound of wind soared, Feng Ming did not had the chance to turned around, felt a fierce pain from the nape, ahead was darken, it seems he was attacked again.

“Keng” a sound echoed from the dagger dropped on the ground.

Feng Ming knees bended down and fell over.

"Ah!"

"The Third Prince, there ... Ah!"

The bitterly cries when death comes near as he personal attendants guarding outside were killed.

"Duke Ming!" Bo Qin started to react, screaming as he dived forward.

“Pop!” the martial art man of Li Kingdom hidden from behind hand forward with one hit on Bo Qin caused him fainted straight away.

"Yours Highness, how will I handle this person?"

Miao Guang's eyes coldly scanned Bo Qin, "Let him go." Her eyes suddenly stopped on the Feng Ming form who earlier got knock out, suddenly the corner of mouth curled up, step-by-step to the his side, raised Feng Ming up against her body, "Duke Ming, finally caught you. Oh, why did you hit him so hard? If he injured, how could we address this with Brother King?"

The martial man respectfully said, "Your servant use a little force, Duke Ming absolutely would not be hurt."

Miao Guang temporary relieved when she heard the replied, quietly nodded, "I will take Duke Ming, you and the other will clear up those troops at below the mountain. Take note, except Bo Qin do not leave anyone alive. I wanted Bo Qin even with his mouth could not answer Rong Tian."

"Understood! As yours command."

It was a bright beautiful sunshine day filled the area, Feng Ming once again fallen into enemy hands.

Feng Ming regained consciousness when it was dark outside; above his head was the smiling victorious face of Miao Guang.

"Duke Ming had awoken?"

'Where is this place?' Feng Ming muttered but there no sound emitted.

"God has helped Li Kingdom, before Rong Tian arrives, I had able to tricked Duke Ming, and if not, this task would be very difficult." Miao Guang moaned as her index fingers placed on the lips, "The carriage speedily on the road all day and night, soon Duke Ming will arrive at Ly Dong City. Hn, Duke Ming had drank medicine, it is best not open your mouth to speak. Obediently go to sleep when you eyes open again you will see Brother King."

When Feng Ming thought that he had fallen into the hands Ruo Yan, he felt intensely panic, but the medicine given by Miao Guang, have stopped his limbs to obey his command, his mind drifted off, inside was chaos and numbness, unwilling to resign to this doom but had no choice but fallen back into cataleptic.

The carriage sounds on the road constantly ringing into his ears, as if announce to Feng Ming that he was getting further away from Rong Tian.

Just as Miao Guang had said, the next time he wakes up before Feng Ming's eyes was a nightmare existence in his mind had come become reality- Li King Ruo Yan.

"Duke Ming is still as beautiful as we first met, how I longing for you."

He obviously a handsome male that match reputation with Rong Tian, but in Feng Ming's eyes, this man smile was scary ten thousand times more than an evil demon. Ruo Yan and he at best only pass each other about two times, but there many attempted traps that set up for him thus his heart shun the other man.

The royal elongated fingers softly caressed his face, causing Feng Ming greatly dread as he back away.

"Ha ha, Duke Ming, why are you so scared?"

Unfortunately, there nowhere on the bed to move back, just slightly moved already touch the cold stonewalls. Ruo Yan deliberately used his foot on Feng Ming's garments, unable for him to move, "The sleeping medicine on Your Grace has alleviated, it would best if Duke Ming do not move." During his speech, his tongue reaching out it was flexible like a snake slithering on Feng Ming white lips because he was too frightened.

Feng Ming inhalation started to become normal because he was enduring the forceful oppression manifest in front of him. His guards were nowhere in sight. Ruo Yan only need to lift his hand would have torn him easily apart.

"Li King unparalleled strategist in the world, Feng Ming in awed." These verses were often praise to Feng Ming, but now he committed volunteer and offered the complimentary hand over to Ruo Yan.

"No, of course not, how could I compare to Xi-Rei Duke Ming? Xi-Rei palace hidden a hundred and eight strategies, I fear it rather hiding on Duke Ming? "

Feng Ming stiffens his body; he said those words to scare Miao Guang, never thought she would believe that and even tattled to Ruo Yan.

"Hi Hi Hi, Li King too flattering, in fact those one hundred and eight strategies..." his words not completed when a hot breath pressured on his face, "Ah..."

His mouth invaded soon separated as Feng Ming struggled for a seconds, Ruo Yan's face quickly grim. He bitten the tongue which constantly tried to run that had caught earlier.

"Ah ... it's hurt..." Feng Ming moaned in pain, their blood spilling from his tongue as the lips tinged with pale pink.

Ruo Yan arrogant smiled, "If you afraid of pain then know how to be a little obedience."

A fitness body of martial artist who trained for many years had pressed Feng Ming under it. Even if Feng Ming's was hundred percent healthy, he could not succumb under the violence of Ruo Yan, let alone Miao Guang had given him sleeping medicine in which made his limbs rather weak. Feng Ming knew he at disadvantage hence on top of his lung scream loudly, "The old said to make a best use of soldiers, only need examine the following could able to guessed who the winner. Which King more intellectual? Which General more talent and virtue? Which officials more efficient? Which party have plentiful food? Which party soldiers more adept in training? Which military party regulation more structured? Which party horses run faster? Which terrain more dangerous? Which party more theory academic? Which neighbours' party are weaker? Which economy is stronger? Which citizen daily livings more stable? Depending on consideration of the strength of these situations may determine who stronger."

This passage was quote from Zhuge Liang's Art of War; previously he had shown off with Rong

Tian, knew that it effective as it had amazed his lover, since this was life and death situation that he has no other way but to use the old trick and deceived Ruo Yan.

"Art of War!" Ruo Yan seems astonished, in which he stops in the track.

Feng Ming sigh relieved, bow to the ground silently admired Zhuge Liang, he mentally done seventeen to eighteen time of kowtows thanking the great Chinese strategist.

"The old said to be good at military strategy, only need examine the following could able to guessed who the winner. Which King more intellectual? Which General more talent and virtue? Which officials more efficient? Which party have plentiful food? Which party soldiers more adept in training? Which military party regulation more structured? Which party horses run faster? Which terrain more dangerous? Which party more theory academic? Which neighbours' party are weaker? Which economy is stronger? Which citizen daily livings more stable? Depending on consideration of the strength of these situations may determine who stronger." Ruo Yan slowly recited back, constantly brooding over those words.

It was Feng Ming turned to be dumbfounded, he could not believe that Ruo Yan could be so formidable, after heard only once, had memorised by heart and able to exactly recited the Art of War.

Ruo Yan stared intensely at Feng Ming, lips fully smiled, "Duke Ming military strategies are remarkable, Xi-Rei has Duke Ming for assistance, why worry not able to conquer the world?"

Feng Ming's eyes saw the hidden malice ambition of Ruo Yan as the other man scrutiny at him caused Feng Ming quivery feared, shocked, forced a smile said, "I can help Xi-Rei, of course, could also support Li Kingdom."

He clenched his teeth, aggressive glared, "However, if Li King determined to force Feng Ming, I rather risked dying like a fish caught by the nets."

"Died like a fish caught by the nets?" Ruo Yan narrowed his eyes, coming closer, "Under torture, whatever I want you to say, you dare not spilled?"

Feng Ming shuddered, Ruo Yan's too sharp and cold eyes, he did not dare to directly faced, avoided and tilted his face replied, "Torture is not necessarily successful, if Li King did not believe, then you can tried me." His heart was too much fearful as it comes near the end; the tone becomes more and more shaky.

The atmosphere thickened that he was breathless.

Ruo Yan's eyes even more perilous than a poisonous snake swept over Feng Ming, suddenly he tilted his face up and laughing hard, "Ha ha, it is interesting, how could I be ruthless to torture Duke Ming?"

Feng Ming exhaled; his rigid jaw held by Ruo Yan and quietly lifted up, the two looked at each other face to face.

"I do not afraid Duke Ming rather dies than being dishonour, even so..." Ruo Yan used low deep sexual magnet voice to taunt him, "Beauty like this, to have a scratch would that not be shameful?"

"Do not speak nonsense." Feng Ming knew at this moment showed he being at a disadvantage and beaten terrified, tried his best to suppress the tremors. His clear cold eyes stared Ruo Yan, serenely said, "You vow not to touch me, then I will write the Art of War for you."

A surprise blow fleeting glance on the Ruo Yan's face, "One book a day."

"How could I write that fast? A book writes in three days. "

"Two days on a book."

"No, three days ..."

"Duke Ming," Ruo Yan coldly interrupted Feng Ming speech, "The pretty little mouth of your keep moving, really charming, I could not resist myself anymore." He fakes of ready to kiss.

The pressure of being force once again weighted upon Feng Ming and he screamed, "Two days, two days, the words of a gentleman, honour bound. Ah ... Hey, ah ... don't touch me!" He swore inside that Ruo Yan ignoble despicable.

Ruo Yan had his fun after stolen a kiss, then release Feng Ming rigid body and laughed, "I'll let you go temporary for today, starting tomorrow, three days a book. If not delivered as promise then compensation with your body should be fine." He bent his face to look at Feng Ming's handsome face, as if he wishes had yet fulfilled, he move closer and lower the body, mumbled, "How odd? Why do I feel like I have been take advantage? No problem, Duke Ming be obedience and write the book all day." He chuckled and triumphantly departed.

Feng Ming nestled in a small corner, felt angry and misery. He could not stop cursed Ruo Yan, as well lashing out at the powerless protector Rong Tian for a while.

He thought of Rong Tian on the way to Bo Jian to pick him up, while he dragged to Li Kingdom, what the chance of them ever going to meet each other again. Feng Ming's heart becomes more desolate so like that laying on the bed and burst into tears.

The next morning, a maidservant wakes Feng Ming early.

He was still mouthwash when Miao Guang stepped inside and laughed like silver bell, "Today, I

here to monitor Your Grace instead of Brother King." Behind her there were two other maidservants, on hands carried all sorts of pen brushes and papers.

Feng Ming extremely disgusted of Miao Guang, just briefly glanced and glared before ignored her.

Miao Guang did not seemed angry or sad, just sat down, hand against her pearl cheeks, "Brother King ordered, if by nightfall still not seeing Duke Ming military strategies, he will personal come to penalize Your Grace." She glanced to see Feng Ming's outrageous face, covered her mouth said, "Duke Ming, no one ever able withstands Brother King's penance. If you do not believe, ask one of his servants. **Man Nhi** comes here." She waved a hand and the maidservant that carrying pen brush walked closer to their sides.

The maidservant named Man Nhi seemed to be about fifteen to sixteen, charming cute, upon heard Miao Guang called, immediately answered, put the pen tray down on the table, and quietly walked to the side.

"Yesterday you served Brother King, right? Let Duke Ming have a looked over a little."

Man Nhi's shuddered, looked up pleading Miao Guang but the Princess intimidation glared back, miserable moved her right leg forward and lifted up the green colour pant.

A white lengthy thigh revealed before their eyes.

Nonetheless, when Feng Ming's vision fallen on the thigh, suddenly shocked. Over patchy skin there were many tiny wounds, bleeding, though he could not guessed what could have cause it. The red trace appeared on the white skin made it even more tragic.

"Man Nhi's flesh was soft as baby, only put in the lake for a little bit, had been eaten by the fish into this. However, she should be grateful for her good fortune, it was justly, such a poor lowly status, how could she had the right to serve Brother King." Miao Guang sneaked a glances at his increasingly unnatural face of Feng Ming, deliberately asked, "Duke Ming, who do you think Man Nhi remind you of?"

When her voice prompted him, Feng Ming had also detected the maidservant girl called Man Nhi's eyes feature slightly like his.

Inside was jolt with shock, eyes thrown over Miao Guang with anger and a little scared.

"Whatever Elder Brother is, the same would say about his younger sister." Feng Ming clenched his teeth said, "I really regret that day that not told Rong Tian to kill you."

"Duke Ming really wicked." Miao Guang wrinkled her nose, "Had I'm not treated you well on those days. At that time, even dressed you, I, Miao Guang a Princess had served you with my hands. Hn, although I may not treat others well, but with Feng Ming always been good." When she end there, blushed embarrassed and anxious.

Feng Ming did not bother to bicker with her, snorted and turned away.

Miao Guang saw that Feng Ming ignored her, somewhat angry, coldly said, "Plead Duke Ming to start to write the Art of War, otherwise Brother King will be angry, no one else could save Your Grace."

Although he was very angry, but knew the weight for his currently situation was not good. Feng Ming extremely depressed in which he reluctantly sat down heavily, take the pen brush, quietly writing.

Should he distorted the passage of military strategies, like Guo Jing (in the story of The Legend of The Condor Heroes) copy the Nine Yin Manual for Ouyang Feng? Feng Ming pondered for a while. He decided that it impossible to do so, Ruo Yan was also proficient in battlefield strategies, if he wrote incorrect would immediately expose by just a glance. If that the case, his effort would be meaningless as if slapped his own mouth, bestow a sheep into a wolf mouth?

Currently it best to please Ruo Yan for a few days, then will try to find a way to escape. He was hopefully that Rong Tian would quickly find his whereabouts and come to Li Kingdom.

Quietly took a deep breath, Feng Ming started to write.

The first chapter should be copy the first of the thirty-six strategy.

Feng Ming frowned, muttered to himself, even though with those strategies, he only really in fact remembered only about eighty percent.

Since that night, Ruo Yan had not visited, only Miao Guang Princess often come to see him briefly then go away, when Feng Ming studious sat writing, sometime she sat quietly on one side, smiled and other times she gazed absorbedly at Feng Ming.

Feng Ming inside was angry, not only that Miao Guang annoyance him as well with her present.

Miao Guang patience dealing with Feng Ming, but one day when Feng Ming mocked her to the point she smirked and speak sweetly, "Do not think only Brother King could know how to torture other, irritate me, I would ensure you feel lived as you're dying and die is not possible. Some of these pills that I could force you to take which will ensure that you will rolling around and scream cried for three days, and there should be no injury appeared on your body." She brought out a small porcelain vase.

Feng Ming scared by her vicious tone for some time, stopped being aggravate, so in the end they made a truce and getting along.

Feng Ming had impatience for three days, in which he also just completed the first part of the Art of War book. Miao Guang took the book, lifting it up carefully as if it fragile like an egg, lightly

blowed the ink that had yet dry on the surface, "The word character of Duke Ming written really similar to Xi-Rei King."

When Rong Tian mentioned, Feng Ming felt more depressed. These last few days he had been anxious restlessness, he did not bother to eating food or drinking water; he had lost some weight and much skinnier. In Miao Guang's eyes felt sorry for him, suddenly remembered that he had just finished written the first book today, should at least celebrated, instant laughed consolation, "Duke Ming had been upset enough for three days, why not go out for a scenic stroll for a break?"

Feng Ming amazement, "I can walk around for relax?"

"Of course, Brother King never said to lock Duke Ming inside the room." Miao Guang laughed softly, gently said, "Just not leaved Xuan Ya (mountain cliff/peak), Duke Ming could freely do whatever you want."

Xuan Ya? Until this moment, Feng Ming had never realised that he had imprisoned in Xuan Ya.



END OF VOLUME III